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Annual Report on Saint Vincent, B.W.I.

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*COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS*

# St. Vincent

1947



*London: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE*

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THE SERIES OF COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS which was re-introduced for the year 1946 (after suspension in 1940) is being continued with those relating to 1947.

It is anticipated that the Colonies and Protectorates for which 1947 Reports are being published will, with some additions, be the same as for the previous year (see list on cover page 3).

# ANNUAL REPORT ON SAINT VINCENT, B.W.I.

## FOR THE YEAR 1947

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## MAP . . . . .

At end

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The cover illustration shows the Windward Coast, from Mount Cobe

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## PART I

### (A) Review of 1947

#### TEN-YEAR PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT

A TEN-YEAR Plan of Development for Saint Vincent, in respect of the period ending 1956, was completed in May, 1947. The Plan, which has already received the approval of the Colonial Office, is described by the Secretary of State as a "most comprehensive document," and a "well-balanced plan of development for the Colony."

The financial implications of this Plan are shown in the following summarised statement of the sources from which the schemes in the Plan will be financed :

	£
(1) From allocation under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, 1945 .. .. ..	345,858
(2) From loans (for the self-supporting schemes) .. .. ..	360,000
(3) From loans (for the non-self-supporting schemes, charges for which will be borne from Colony funds) .. .. .. ..	41,500
(4) From Colony funds .. .. .. ..	359,075
<b>TOTAL .. .. ..</b>	<b><u>£1,106,433</u></b>

#### AIR COMMUNICATIONS

Anti-erosion and drainage works were carried out at the Diamond Airfield under Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme No. D.67A.

The fortnightly charter service by the British Guiana Airways was maintained throughout the year. The helicopter trials did not eventuate, as the proposals were deferred, but consideration was given to the possibilities of providing an alternative solution for the air service problem in the form of a sea-plane service.

#### LABOUR

Approximately 10,000 persons were employed by estate owners and peasants during the year. There were no strikes or lockouts during the year.

The Labour Commissioner maintained close personal contact with the industrial field, which made for all-round improvement in employer-employee relations.

#### Cost of Living

The cost of living figure, so far as working-class families are concerned, continued to rise and reached 214 in December.

### *Trade Unions*

Three trade unions came into being during the year, but of these only one remained active towards the end of the year.

### *Agreements*

An agreement was drawn up between proprietors and share-tenants regarding the conditions of tenancy in Bequia.

### *Labour Legislation*

There were no changes in, or additions to, the labour legislation published in the Report for 1946.

### *Factory Legislation*

The legislation enacted since 1943 has not yet been brought into force, owing to the lack of trained staff to ensure its efficient enforcement.

## AGRICULTURE

During the year under review the Agricultural Department has made satisfactory progress in its effort to impress on the public mind the fundamental importance of the soil, and to stimulate interest among all classes of planters in soil conservation and maintenance of soil fertility measures. Co-operation by both estate proprietors and peasant farmers was very encouraging, and at the end of the year it was evident that the planting community was becoming soil-conservation conscious.

Colonial Development and Welfare funds have made it possible to establish stations in various parts of the Colony for the investigation and demonstration of systems of farming best suited to the various localities. Attention has also been devoted to the improvement of livestock, but there is at present a shortage of suitably trained staff for this type of work.

The Extension Services divisions of the Department have made considerable progress during the year ; and an adequate number of trained agricultural assistants and instructors are in charge of these services, and various surveys were carried out.

The Land Settlement and Development Board held monthly meetings during the year ; its chief activities were centred on the control and development of the two groups of estates on the Leeward coast (comprising about 4,000 acres) which were purchased by Government in 1946.

## FISHERIES

The Fishery Division of the Department of Agriculture, which was inaugurated in July, 1946, made satisfactory progress during the past year. A survey of the industry was carried out, two Co-operative Fishermen's Associations formed, and efforts were made to secure better marketing facilities. Two Assistant Fishery Instructors were appointed in November to assist the Junior Fishery Officer with the increased duties of this division.

## FORESTRY

The control of the Forestry Division was carried out by the Agricultural Superintendent who is *ex-officio* Chief Forest Officer. The policies advocated by Dr. Beard, Assistant Conservator of Forests, Lesser Antilles Division, and accepted by the local Legislature could not be fully carried out owing to the lack of suitably-trained staff.

## SOCIAL WELFARE

*Staff*

The Social Welfare Adviser, Windward Islands, who is stationed at Saint Vincent, paid official visits to the other Colonies of the Windward Islands Group during the year. The local staff consists of a Social Welfare Officer, a Woman Assistant Social Welfare Officer, a Group Organiser (who is pursuing a course in social science in the United Kingdom), a Junior Woman Assistant (Group Organisation), a Poor Relief and Probation Officer, a junior clerk, a clerical assistant and a messenger. The work of the Department continued along the lines started in 1945.

*Training Courses*

One student from Saint Vincent attended the 1947 training course held in Jamaica. On her return, she reverted to her substantive post at the Crown Surveyor's Office and assisted in voluntary work.

*Local Government*

The draft legislation for the establishment of Village Councils is still under consideration.

*Delinquency*

The Juvenile Offenders' Institution is in full operation, with facilities for educational instruction, trade training, and indoor and outdoor games. A Welfare Committee was appointed to look into the welfare of these young offenders.

*Clubs*

4-H and women's club work continued as usual. There was an increase in inter-club activities, such as competitive games, and there was marked development in the ability of clubs to manage their own affairs. The absence of field officers—the District Welfare Officer and the Group Organiser—in the United Kingdom tended to handicap rural club work, and, in consequence, there has been a diminution of 4-H club activities.

## CONFERENCES

The second Annual Conference of the four Administrators of the Windward Islands was held at Barbados under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Sir Arthur Grimble, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Windward Islands, from 24th to 28th January, at which items of common interest to the Group were discussed from an administrative angle. The Conference was joined by the Supply Officers of the four islands for consideration of the recommendations of the Cost of Living Conference held in Grenada in November, 1946, under the chairmanship of Professor C. G. Beasley, Economic Adviser to the Comptroller.

A Conference on Closer Union of the Windward and Leeward Islands was held at St. Kitts from 1st February under the chairmanship of His Honour Sir Clement Malone, O.B.E., Chief Justice of the Windward and Leeward Islands. The Saint Vincent delegates were the Honourables S. F. Bonadie and O. D. Brisbane. Their Excellencies the Governors of the Windward Islands and of the Leeward Islands met at Antigua on 8th and 9th February to discuss the resolutions put forward by the Conference.

Further discussions between the two Governors, at which Sir Clement Malone was present, took place in Grenada on 28th and 29th April, after which their joint recommendations on the resolutions were forwarded to the Secretary of State for consideration. On 16th and 17th May the two Governors again met at St. Kitts for further discussions with regard to the proposals for the closer union of the two groups. At this meeting Professor Beasley, Economic Adviser to the Comptroller, Mr. W. A. McNie, O.B.E., Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands, and Mr. W. A. Date, Chief Secretary of the Windward Islands, were present.

Both Governors were called to the United Kingdom in June for consultation with the Colonial Office upon a plan for federating those islands of the two groups which desired to be united under a strong Central Government.

A Social Welfare and Probation Conference, attended by officers from all the British Caribbean territories except British Honduras and the Bahamas, was held in Barbados from 13th to 20th March. The Conference was opened by Sir John MacPherson, K.C.M.G., Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies, and was under the chairmanship of Miss Dora Ibberson, his Social Welfare Adviser. The Saint Vincent delegates were the Social Welfare Officer and the Poor Relief and Probation Officer.

The chief subjects before the Conference were the place of social welfare in the machinery of Government and its relation to local government and to voluntary work, rural welfare work, child welfare, etc. Miss Joan Whittington, of the British Red Cross Society, attended the Conference and discussed how best the Society could serve the medical and welfare interests of the region, with special reference to the extension of the knowledge of hygiene and child welfare.

A Cost of Living Conference was convened at St. Lucia between 20th and 24th March. The Honourables G. A. McIntosh, S. F. Bonadie and E. A. C. Hughes attended as representatives of the Saint Vincent Legislature. The Controller of Supplies and representatives of the local Chamber of Commerce were also in attendance. As a result of the recommendations of this Conference a new Prices Control Order was published in May which was subject to revision after every six-monthly meeting of the Windward Islands Supply Officers.

A Conference of Directors of Medical Services and Senior Medical Officers in the West Indies was held in Barbados from 20th to 24th June under the chairmanship of the Medical Adviser to the Comptroller. Dr. W. L. Webb, Senior Medical Officer, Saint Vincent, attended the Conference. Among the subjects discussed were the unification of Medical Services and the terms of service and emoluments of medical officers, specialist appointments and private practice, and the enactment of legislation to cover the sale of penicillin and poisons.

A Fact-Finding Meeting was held at Barbados between 11th and 15th July, under the chairmanship of Professor Beasley, Economic Adviser to the Comptroller, at which the shipping needs and problems of the British Caribbean Colonies were discussed. The Saint Vincent delegates were the Honourable L. Cools-Lartigue, Colonial Treasurer,

and the Honourables O. D. Brisbane and E. A. C. Hughes. The Report of the Meeting was published in September.

The second British Caribbean Oils and Fats Conference was also held in Barbados from 13th to 22nd July under the chairmanship of Professor Beasley. The Conference followed on a similar meeting held in January, 1945, and was held in view of the continued need for the British Caribbean Area to supply as far as possible its own requirements of oils and fats. Saint Vincent was represented by the Honourable E. A. C. Hughes and Mr. C. de B. Barnard with the Controller of Supplies as Adviser. Agreement was reached on the terms of a new five-year contract, which included an export price for copra of £42 10s. per ton for the first three years as far as Barbados and the Windward Islands were concerned. The price for the fourth and fifth years was to be negotiated within the limits of £35 and £45 per ton.

A Conference on Closer Association in the West Indies was held at Montego Bay, Jamaica, from 11th to 19th September, at which the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. A. Creech Jones, presided. Delegates from the Legislatures of Barbados, British Guiana, British Honduras, Jamaica, the Leeward Islands, Trinidad and the Windward Islands attended. The Saint Vincent delegate was the Honourable S. F. Bonadie. Mr. G. F. Seel, C.M.G., of the Colonial Office, was met by His Excellency the Governor of the Windward Islands at Grenada on 22nd August, and at St. Lucia on 27th for discussions on the matter. It was expected at the close of the year that the resolutions of the Conference would be laid before each Legislature for consideration early in 1948.

#### CENSUS

Printed copies of the Population, Agricultural and Fishery Census, taken in 1946, are not yet available.

#### WATER SUPPLIES

The engineering surveys for the Kingstown Water Supply requested by Mr. Roddam, the Hydraulic and Electrical Engineer, on the staff of the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies, who is designing the waterworks, have been completed. The six-inch section of the pipe-line has been laid along the route.

#### HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME

The topographical mapping of the Colonarie River basin and of the route of the transmission lines to Kingstown has been completed and the drawings have been delivered to Mr. Roddam, the designing engineer.

Generating plant and steel pipes for the turbine feed have been ordered from the United Kingdom. The wood-stave section of the pipe-line has been ordered from Canada.

## PART I

### (B) Report on Progress of Important Local Projects for Development and Welfare

#### AGRICULTURE, LAND SETTLEMENT, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

##### *Agriculture*

A detailed account of the organisation and functions of the Department of Agriculture has already been given in previous reports, and this served to explain the increases in expenditure on the Department during the war years.

As yet the reorganisation of the Department is still far from complete, due mainly to shortage of senior staff and lack of accommodation ; but in spite of this, considerable progress has been made both in the research and extension fields. Attention was again devoted to the improvement of both large- and small-scale farming, particular emphasis being laid on contour cultivation and strip-cropping, maintenance of stud and nursery centres, and formation of credit societies. Colonial Development and Welfare grants again bore the greater part of the financial burden, but local funds also made an important contribution to extension services, especially for the smallholder.

Considerable progress has been made in the establishment of Camden Park as the centre for agricultural research and development in the Colony. During the period under review, adequate quarters for resident staff and proper office accommodation were constructed. Breeding and agronomic experiments were carried out with cotton, arrowroot, maize, and sweet potatoes, in addition to rotation and fertility experiments, and the demonstration and maintenance of soil conservation measures in the form of contour cultivation, strip-cropping, plant barriers, tie-ridging, bench-terracing, and diversion ditches. Investigation of problems affecting peasant farmers was initiated in the form of an apprenticeship scheme at Camden Park. Each of the four second-year students was allotted a holding and was assisted by a first-year student ; they were required to do a full share of the manual work on the holding, which varied from two to five acres in size, and were made responsible for the recording of all expenditure and revenue on their respective holdings.

Programmes of work for each Extension District were drawn up by the respective Agricultural Assistants (staff provided under Scheme D.105 and D.587), and although shortage of junior personnel prevented their full implementation, there was a marked improvement in the co-ordination of work carried out under the several schemes for raising the standard of agriculture. Soil conservation demonstrations and nurseries, financed by

Scheme D.451, played a valuable part in the extension programme and stirred up considerable interest in the value of this method of farming. Local funds also made an important contribution to the furtherance of extension work.

The establishment of District Stud Centres now numbering three in , and financed under approved Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D.22, has evidenced increasing interest in livestock improvement, particularly by the peasants, and this has been assisted by the importation during the year of pedigree breeding stock by private owners from the neighbouring Colonies. Owing to the difficulties experienced, however,

obtaining pure-bred and high-graded animals for breeding purposes, animals available for service were not all that could be desired, but efforts are again being made to import animals of high standard for this purpose.

#### *Land Settlement*

Under Scheme D.277, a temporary Land Settlement Officer was appointed to Canouan for the first half of the year to carry out a socio-economic survey of the island. Shortage of staff, however, has made it impossible to complete the analysis of data thus collected, and as a result of this the proposed re-allocation of holdings, based on considerations of size of family and type of farming, has not yet been possible.

Plans for the development of the Leeward Land Settlement Estates, purchased under Scheme D.457 in 1946, were put on a sounder footing and operated on the proportional benefit system. The respective properties were run as estates throughout the year, and were under the control of a manager, paid from a working account. Towards the latter part of the year, however, a variation of the scheme was approved to provide for the appointment of an Agricultural Assistant (Land Settlement) to undertake the preparation of detailed plans for land utilisation and the expansion of agricultural production, including a system of mixed farming applicable under the existing conditions. In accordance with the land utilisation plan, food garden allotments were distributed on a leasehold basis, and at the end of the year 174 one-acre food gardens had been leased—98 in the southern and 76 in the northern block. Unfortunately recently taken aerial photographs have confirmed the fact that an extremely large portion of the Leeward Land Settlement Estates is relatively inaccessible and unsuitable for cultivation under present conditions. It was also decided to establish a demonstration centre on the Estates under the supervision of the Agricultural Assistant (Land Settlement) for the purpose of furthering livestock improvement, to demonstrate economic systems of cropping best suited to small holdings, and to carry out irrigation trials with crops and fodder grasses, etc.

#### *Forestry*

The Forestry Division is still very much in its infancy, and little if any progress can be recorded in the implementation of the accepted forest policy. Much basic information is required, which can only be determined by surveys and mapping of forest resources. This is a necessary prerequisite for a land utilisation plan and the implementation of a constructive forest programme, which will bear direct relationship to

the island's economy. One Forest Ranger undertook a three months' course of training in the Forestry Department of Trinidad, and has since assisted in the establishment of four nurseries on the Windward ridge. Provision has now been made for the appointment of two Crown Lands Bailiffs, whose principal functions would be the collection of rents, thereby releasing the Rangers and Guards for actual forestry work under the guidance of a full-time supervisor with a knowledge, if possible, of both silviculture and agriculture, and a full appreciation of the importance of forests to soil and water conservation.

### *Fisheries*

The Junior Fishery Officer, provided under Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D662 to assist with the improvement of fisheries in Saint Vincent, resigned with effect from 1st July, 1947, and a new appointment was made on 22nd September. The two posts of Assistant Fishery Instructors, which had previously remained vacant, were also filled as from 1st November, 1947.

Two co-operative fishermen's associations were formed in October at Layou and Barrouallie, fishing villages on the Leeward Coast. Several thousand gallons of black fish (pilot whale) oil were extracted during the last few months of the year at these fishing villages, and markets are being sought in Barbados and Trinidad for this product.

### PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES

Three schemes, supported by funds from Colonial Development and Welfare in the West Indies, were described from their inauguration in the report for 1946. Progress under these schemes has not been particularly marked during 1947 on account of the difficulty of obtaining fittings to complete the building programme, and of the dearth of medical officers. Under the Health Centre Scheme it has neither been possible to complete the Health Institute buildings at Belair nor to release the Medical Superintendent of the Institute from duties as a District Medical Officer. The work of the Institute continued throughout the year, and one nurse was admitted for training for a period of six months at the end of which she had to be recalled to district duties. Under the Rural Hospitals and Dispensaries' Scheme no new buildings were completed, but work was commenced on a new dispensary and nurses' quarters at the newly created village at Sandy Bay and plans were prepared for a dispensary and cottage hospital at Biabou. Work was in progress at Bequia under the third scheme on a cottage hospital and dispensary unit, but was not completed before the end of the year.

### CENTRAL HOUSING AND PLANNING AUTHORITY

In January, 1947, a free grant of £5,365 was obtained from the funds at the disposal of Development and Welfare in the West Indies to meet the expenses of the headquarters staff of the Central Housing and Planning Authority for a period of five years. The staff consisted of a secretary and executive officer, an accountant and a clerk. No other funds were made available for the authority from this source.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

**Buildings**

In continuation of the very large amount of building carried out by the Public Works Department in 1945 and 1946 (medical buildings at Cumberland, Barrouallie, Camden Park, Belair, Calliaqua and Bequia ; agricultural buildings at Camden Park and Carriere ; educational buildings at Questelles and Georgetown) with Development and Welfare funds, nurses', steward's and dispenser's quarters have been built in Bequia and a dispensary and nurses' quarters have been built at Sandy Bay ; field offices and overseer's quarters have been built at the Agricultural Experimental Station at Camden Park ; and an annexe completed at the Questelles School, and an annexe added to the Hope School.

**EDUCATION**

Work under the Training of Teachers' Scheme was continued. The six supervising teachers were responsible for the training of 202 part-time pupil teachers. At the end of the year 19 student teachers were selected from among the part-time teachers who had completed three years' training. Ten intending teachers (two boys, eight girls) entered the secondary schools for the three-year course from January, 1947. The first set of intending teachers left in December to return to the primary schools as student teachers for a period of two years. Provision was again made for the training at the Trinidad Government Training College of two male teachers.

No vacation courses were held in 1947.

The purchase and re-erection of the Sergeants' Quarters of the Arnos Vale Camp as an extension to the Buccament Government School were approved and the work has been completed.

The distribution of school supplies was continued.

Mr. W. Healey, B.Sc., M.I.Mech.E., A.M.I.C.E., Assistant Educational Adviser for Vocational Training, visited the Colony in July and examined the possibility of the establishment of a vocational school for pupils between 12 and 15 years of age.

No funds were provided, and no further steps have been taken by this Department to commence adult education.

## PART II

### Chapter 1 : Population

THE census of April, 1946, showed the population of the Colony to be 61,660 (males 27,938 and females 33,722), as compared with the census of April, 1931, which recorded 47,961 (males 21,208 and females 26,753)—an increase of 13,699 (males 6,730 and females 6,969) and a percentage increase of 28·6 (males 31·7 and females 26·0).

The population of the Colony was distributed as follows :

(a) *Kingstown, the Capital* : 4,831 (males 2,071, females 2,760)  
as compared with 4,269 (males 1,720, females 2,549)  
in 1931—an increase of 562 (males 351, females 211)  
and a percentage increase of 13·2.

(b) *The suburban areas of Kingstown* : 9,932 (males 4,407, females 5,525)  
as compared with 6,947 (males 3,080, females 3,867)  
in 1931—an increase of 2,985 (males 1,327, females 1,658)  
and a percentage increase of 43·0.

(c) *The rural areas* : 42,413 (males 19,522, females 22,891)  
as compared with 33,062 (males 14,809, females 18,253)  
in 1931—an increase of 9,351 (males 4,713, females 4,638)  
and a percentage increase of 28·3.

(d) *The Grenadines* : 4,484 (males 1,938, females 2,546)  
as compared with 3,683 (males 1,599, females 2,084)  
in 1931, an increase of 801 (males 339, females 462)  
and a percentage increase of 21·7.

### Chapter 2 : Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

#### OCCUPATIONS, WAGES AND HOURS OF WORK

Agriculture is the principal industry in the Colony, and approximately 10,000 persons were employed by estate owners and peasants during the year.

The estimated number of persons engaged in the other industries was as follows :

(a) Manufacturing	..	..	..	..	..	2,000
(b) Building and Road Construction	..	..	..	..	..	2,000
(c) Transport and Communication	..	..	..	..	..	680
(d) Trade and Commerce	..	..	..	..	..	1,100
(e) Hotel and Personal Services	..	..	..	..	..	2,000
(f) Public and other Services	..	..	..	..	..	1,000

The prescribed basic minimum wage-rates in the agricultural industry for workers employed on time work were 2s. and 1s. 6d., plus a bonus of 10 per cent, for a man and a woman respectively, for a day of eight hours, or its equivalent for piece work.

From 3rd November, 1947, the Planters' Association voluntarily increased the cost-of-living bonus from 10 per cent to 25 per cent, which placed the daily wage-rates at 2s. 6d. and 1s. 10½d., an increase of 3½d. and 2½d. to a man and a woman respectively. The corresponding pre-war rates were 1s. 2d. and 10d., a percentage increase of 114 and 125.

The rates of wages in the other industries were as follows :

(a) *Manufacturing Industries* :

Men, 2s. 6d. to 3s. for a day of 8 hours; men, 16s. 8d. to £1 13s. 4d. and women 15s. to £1 for a week of 48 to 60 hours.

(b) *Building and Road Construction* :

*Building* : Men 4s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. for a day of 8 hours.

*Road* : Men, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 8d. and women 1s. 8d. to 2s. for a day of 8 hours.

(c) *Transport and Communication* :

Men, £1 13s. 4d. to £2 1s. 8d. per week and £3 2s. 6d. to £5 12s. 6d. per month (10 hours of work per day).

(d) *Trade and Commerce* :

Men, 16s. 8d. to £2 1s. 8d. and women, 14s. 7d. to £1 13s. 4d. for a week of 42 hours, also men £5 4s. 2d. to £12 10s., and women £3 2s. 6d. to £10 8s. 4d. per month (42 to 48 hours of work per week).

(e) *Hotels and Personal Service* :

Women 16s. 8d. to £1 5s. per month (with meals) and £1 13s. 4d. to £2 1s. 8d. per month (without meals)—10 hours of work per day.

(f) *Public and other Services* :

(1) *Government Clerical Service* :

Probationary : £60 per annum.

Class III : £80 × £10—£100 per annum.

Class II : £110 × £10—£200 per annum.

Class I : £215 × £15—£300 per annum.

Special Grade : £320 × £20—£400 per annum.

(2) *Primary School Teachers* :

Certified Teachers (Selected Grade), men £120 × £10—£200 per annum, and women £110 × £10 to £160 per annum.

Certified Teachers (Long Grade), men £80 × £5—£120 per annum, and women £60 × £5 to £110 per annum.

Uncertified Teachers, £50 per annum.

Student Teachers, £40 per annum, Fourth, Third, Second, First and Probationary Pupil Teachers, £25, £20, £15, £12 and £9 per annum respectively.

The cost-of-living bonus was increased from £16 per

annum to amounts ranging from £19 to £39 12s. 6d. per annum on the salaries of all Government employees with effect from 1st January, 1947—on a basis ranging from 25 per cent on salaries in the lower brackets to 5 per cent on those in the higher brackets.

#### COST OF LIVING

The cost-of-living index figures for working-class families for all items during 1946 and 1947, as compared with the basic year, 1939, taken as 100, were as follows :

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1947	204	203	204	206	205	206	208	210	213	213	213	214
1946	190	190	190	189	189	189	194	196	201	202	202	201

The percentage increases in the various groups at 31st December, 1947, and for the preceding year, were as follows :

			Fuel and									
			Food	Rent	Cleaning	Clothing	All Other					
1947	..	..	98	40	108	226	110					
1946	..	..	90	40	96	186	95					

The percentage increases in the retail prices of staple foodstuffs and articles of clothing at the end of December, 1947, and for the previous year were as follows :

Staple Foodstuffs	1947	1946	Clothing	1947	1946
Beef, fresh	55.5	55.5	Bags, flour	414.3	414.3
Bread	150.0	150.0	Chambray	326.7	180.0
Fish, fresh	95.0	47.5	Cotton, white	275.0	275.0
Flour	216.7	216.7	Denim	336.4	277.3
Milk, fresh	50.0	50.0	Drill, khaki	270.8	275.0
Oil, edible	88.9	55.5	Oxfords	337.5	181.3
Rice	133.3	133.3	Prints	356.1	164.1
Sugar, unrefined	83.3	83.3	Shirts, working	309.8	205.7

From the month of February to the end of the year, flour and locally-produced unrefined sugar were subsidised by Government. The retail price of flour was maintained at 4*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. instead of being retailed at 6*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. per lb., and that of unrefined sugar at 2*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. instead of 3d. per lb. The total expenditure was £21,268 (flour £17,891 and sugar £3,377).

The cost of living in Saint Vincent is reasonable for officials and others from overseas, mainly as a result of low direct taxation. On an income of £800, less than 10 per cent would cover all tax liabilities. Rent is rather high, and as much as from £60 to £120 a year may be asked for a suitable unfurnished house. Servants are cheap, and good ones are obtainable at wages ranging from £15 to £30 a year. Imported foodstuffs are expensive, but local products, including vegetables, fruit, meat, fish and dairy produce, are all reasonable. Two people would be able to live comfortably and keep a car on £600 per annum, if they were prepared to limit their entertaining to reasonable proportions.

## STAFF AND DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

The staff of the Department of Labour comprised the Labour Commissioner, one senior clerk (Class 1) and two junior clerks (Classes II and III) during the year.

The main duties of the Department are to supervise and review the conditions of the various forms of employment, to ensure the enforcement of labour legislation, to investigate all representations made by employers or workers with a view to settling disputes and improving industrial relations, to visit the various places of employment with a view to studying rates of pay, hours of work, living conditions, conditions of work in factories, to collect and collate statistics relating to the numbers of workers employed and unemployed, wage-rates, hours of work, cost of living and migration, to give advice and help to such bodies as may be undertaking the formation of trade unions.

## TRADE UNIONS

At the beginning of the year there were three registered trade unions in existence, namely, the Saint Vincent Peasant Cultivators, with a membership of 284; the Saint Vincent General Workers, with a membership of 472; and the Saint Vincent Growers, with a membership of 50. Towards the end of the year, however, two of these unions, namely, the Saint Vincent Peasant Cultivators and the Saint Vincent Growers, showed no signs of activity, but the membership of the Saint Vincent General Workers increased from 472 to 759 as at 31st December. Every effort is being made by the officials of the union to stimulate interest so as to bring the various classes of workers within its scope.

## LABOUR DISPUTES

There were no strikes or lockouts during the year.

The officers of the Department saw 718 persons on various matters affecting labour, a summary of which is shown hereunder:

(1) Termination of services without notice or payment of wages in lieu thereof .. .. .. .. ..	193
(2) Termination of services without payment of wages .. .. .. .. ..	57
(3) Enquiries regarding employment in Aruba .. .. .. .. ..	65
(4) Enquiries regarding employment locally .. .. .. .. ..	268
(5) Applications by ex-servicemen for employment and the grant of loans by Government .. .. .. .. ..	71
(6) Applications for land .. .. .. .. ..	10
(7) Compensation for injuries .. .. .. .. ..	3
(8) Miscellaneous .. .. .. .. ..	51
<b>TOTAL .. .. .. .. ..</b>	<b>718</b>

Visits were also paid by the Labour Commissioner to the Saint Vincent Grenadines (Bequia and Mustique) for the purpose of assisting in drawing up an agreement between proprietors and share-tenants regarding the

conditions of tenancy in Bequia, and investigating labour conditions in Mustique.

#### LABOUR LEGISLATION

There were no changes in, or additions to, the labour legislation published in the previous report.

Factory legislation has been enacted since 1943, but as there is not yet available "a person qualified by training and practical experience to undertake examinations and tests of machinery," the legislation has not been brought into force.

Provision is also made under the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance for payment of compensation to workmen for injuries suffered in the course of their employment. Certain classes of workers are, however, excluded from its provisions.

There is no legislative provision for sickness or old age.

### Chapter 3 : Public Finance and Taxation

In the following table, which sets out separately the figures of local revenue and expenditure and those relating to Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes, there is presented a picture of progressive expansion throughout the period from 1939 to 1946.

Year	Local Revenue	C.D. and W.	Total	Local Expenditure	C.D. and W.	Total
1939	101,862	276	102,138	100,347	26	100,373
1940	115,904	—	115,904	106,371	3,416	109,787
1941	115,659	3,604*	126,388	111,207	501	111,708
1942	115,715	—*	117,023	125,420	12,100	137,520
1943	162,420	22,780	185,200	141,032	18,823	159,855
1944	183,899	23,778	207,677	166,522	18,516	185,038
1945	189,639	26,057	215,696	200,876	49,216	250,992
1946	217,694	120,764	338,458	224,066	105,158	329,224

\* Imperial Grant in 1941 of £7,125 and in 1942 of £1,308.

There were five main heads of Revenue: Customs; Licences, Excise and other Internal Revenue; Fees of Court or Office, etc.; Post Office; and Electricity and Telephones—and, as the following statement discloses, these sources formed the Colony's mainstay consistently throughout the period :

Year	Customs	Licences, etc.	Fees, etc.	Post Office	Electricity and Telephone	
					£	£
1939	50,747	27,427	7,375	2,972	6,870	
1940	54,513	37,022	7,092	2,667	7,389	
1941	55,685	34,946	7,981	3,287	8,084	
1942	43,278	41,638	9,212	8,396	7,984	
1943	68,563	54,074	9,639	15,115	9,690	
1944	85,693	61,529	10,585	10,627	10,333	
1945	77,652	69,394	11,913	12,601	11,361	
1946	84,255	69,650	19,195	21,586	13,002	

The main heads of Expenditure showed no variation from those of previous years, and are set out comparatively in the subjoined table :

Year	Public Debt	Pen-sions	Educa-tion	Elec-tricity	Medi-cal	Miscel-laneous	Police	P.W. Rec.	P.W. Ext.	Trea-sury
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1939	8,213	6,310	12,831	4,874	19,071	5,046	6,041	6,849	6,690	4,199
1940	8,354	5,737	13,807	5,574	18,798	4,800	6,584	7,986	7,740	4,520
1941	8,704	7,127	15,325	5,594	19,596	8,500	8,755	8,486	3,621	4,902
1942	8,782	6,903	15,093	6,632	22,688	10,082	7,535	12,345	4,828	4,801
1943	8,813	6,210	16,837	7,503	24,756	14,066	8,813	14,689	4,515	4,863
1944	8,889	7,622	17,845	9,596	26,866	18,525	10,043	10,042	4,437	6,973
1945	8,815	7,399	25,010	10,035	27,637	31,388	12,141	17,305	8,305	9,067
1946	8,769	7,064	21,802	9,607	30,106	23,520	12,440	26,667	25,060	9,966

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1946, totalled £76,371, of which local loan issues amounted to :

	£
Kingstown Board Water Supply Loan, 1930	. . . . . 700
Land Settlement Loan, 1932-35	. . . . . 4,100
District Water Supply Loan, 1934	. . . . . 1,000
Public Purposes Loan, 1937	. . . . . 9,060
Telephone Loan, 1938	. . . . . 1,500
Electricity Generating Unit Loan, 1939	. . . . . 3,636
	<u>£19,996</u>

A statement of the Assets and Liabilities, including a comparative statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the year, is attached as Appendix I.

The main heads of taxation and the yield from each were :

	£
Import Duties	. . . . . 74,073
Export Duties	. . . . . 9,656
Licences	. . . . . 4,253
Excise Duties	. . . . . 23,109
Trade Duty	. . . . . 4,206
Income Tax	. . . . . 27,405
Stamp Duties	. . . . . 4,010
Land and House Tax	. . . . . 4,806
Estate Duties	. . . . . 257
	<u>£151,775</u>

The principal features of the Customs Tariff are reproduced in the table at Appendix II.

Locally manufactured spirits bear an excise duty of 14s. 2d. per proof gallon and, in addition, a trade duty is imposed, on locally manufactured rum of 2s. per proof gallon, and on imported spirits between 3s. and 6s. per gallon, liquid or proof according to circumstances.

The minimum rate of income tax, in the case of individuals, is 5d. in the pound, and the maximum 14s. 6d. ; but at intermediate points in the income progression, beginning from £1,000, a percentage surtax ranging

from 5 per cent to 25 per cent is also imposed. The incidence of tax at varying income charge levels is tabularly set out at Appendix III.

In the case of companies the tax is at a flat rate of 5s. in the pound.

The more important stamp duties are detailed at Appendix IV.

The basic land tax in Saint Vincent and Union Island, the largest dependency, is 1s. per acre or part thereof, while in the other island dependencies comprising the Grenadines it varies between 3d. and 6d. per acre. In Saint Vincent an additional tax of 1s. per acre or fractional part thereof, according to the size of holding, is also imposed. In only two of the Grenadine Islands is a similar additional tax levied, the rates being respectively 3d. and 1d. per acre or fractional part.

The tax upon houses, levied only in Saint Vincent, Union Island and Bequia, is based on the assessed annual rental as follows :

	£3 and not exceeding £5	.	.	.	2s. per house
Over £5	„ „ £6	.	.	.	2s. 6d. per house
„ £6 „ „ £7 10s.	.	.	.	.	3s. 4d. per house
„ £7 10s. „ „ £9	.	.	.	.	4s. per house
„ £9 „ „ £10	.	.	.	.	5s. per house
„ £10 „ „ £12 10s.	.	.	.	.	6s. 8d. per house
„ £12 10s. „ „ £15	.	.	.	.	10s. per house
„ £15 at the rate of £5 per cent of the assessed annual rental.					

These taxes are payable without penalty between 1st November and 31st December. During the following January arrears of unpaid taxes are subject to a fine of 3d. where the total due does not exceed £1, and at the rate of 8 per cent on amounts in excess. Thereafter all outstanding amounts are collected by a bailiff under warrant of levy and execution.

## Chapter 4 : Currency and Banking

There is no local currency, and all the gold, silver and bronze coins of the United Kingdom circulate at face value. Silver is legal tender for any amount and copper for any sum not exceeding 1s. Trinidad Government currency notes exchange at the rate of 4s. 2d. per dollar, and are unrestricted as legal tender.

The only note issue bank in the Colony is Barclays Bank (Dominion Colonial and Overseas), which carries out general banking operations and had, in 1947, a note circulation of £23,470. Interest bearing deposits are limited in the Savings Branch to £500 and the rate allowed is 1 per cent per annum.

Savings departments are also operated by the Saint Vincent Agricultural Credit and Loan Bank, Ltd., which was established for the purpose of assisting peasants with money advances for crop cultivation, and by the Saint Vincent Co-operative Bank, Ltd., formed for general co-operative activities and assistance. The rate of interest allowed is in each case 2 per cent, and at 31st December, 1947, the former organisation held £13,741 to the credit of 1,499 depositors, and the latter £5,556 on behalf of 1,679 depositors.

The Government Savings Bank enforces a limit for amounts held on

deposit by any individual at any one time of £1,000. At 31st December, 1946, the total deposits amounted to £94,173, representing 2,323 depositors, the rate of interest earned being 2½ per cent per annum.

## Chapter 5 : Commerce

There were no outstanding commercial developments during the year, but trade was well maintained in spite of unsettled conditions still existing in world markets. The main imports and exports for 1946, as compared with the quantities for 1945, are annexed as Appendix V.

## Chapter 6 : Production

The island's production is almost entirely agricultural, the chief crops in their order of importance as shown by the value of their exports during 1947 being arrowroot, starch, copra, Sea Island cotton, sweet potatoes, groundnuts, livestock and cassava starch. Minor agricultural products contributing to the island's economy, mainly through their sale on the local market, were notably sugar, edible oil, miscellaneous food-crops, animals, and animal products.

Arrowroot is by far the most important crop to the island, enjoying a virtual monopoly in world markets. In 1947 its export value was nearly double that of its nearest competitor, copra, and amounted in quantity to 6½ million lbs. The total production for the same year only exceeded exports by about 110,000 lb., this figure representing the portion of the production consumed locally.

Shipments of starch are made through a single agency, the Saint Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association, to markets situated chiefly in the U.S.A. and the United Kingdom, where the product is in very fair demand. In 1947 the exports to the U.S.A. amounted to nearly 5 million lb., and those to the United Kingdom to 1·4 million, while small quantities were disposed of in Canada and the neighbouring West Indian islands.

Both large- and small-scale growers contribute to the island's arrowroot production, but while the area cultivated by peasants amounted to nearly half the total under arrowroot, this group accounted for only 13 per cent of the total annual production of starch. This is accounted for by the relatively poor land available to peasants, the difficulty of obtaining adequate credit facilities for the purchase of essential commodities and the fact that a large proportion of the peasantry is ignorant of the advantages of mixed farming practices, and have not yet converted to the use of artificial fertilisers. A further cause for the apparently low yields of peasant-grown arrowroot is found in the practice by the factories of retaining a portion of the peasants' starch in payment for the processing of rhizomes.

A scheme to encourage small growers to extend the acreage under

arrowroot by subsidising half the cost of both planting material and sulphate of ammonia was initiated during 1945 and continued in 1946. By the end of 1946, it was possible to say that the industry was in a satisfactory condition and the subsidy was therefore discontinued in 1947. The effects of subsidisation may be seen reflected in the acreages planted during the years in question. For the 1945-46 crop an increase in acreage of 455 acres was observed over that for the year 1944-45. The acreage for the 1946-47 crop, however, did not show any appreciable increase over that of the previous year.

Experiments conducted in the United Kingdom by the Colonial Products Research Council for the improvement of arrowroot processing machinery were continued, and this has finally resulted in a recommendation that trials be undertaken locally with granite edged runner mills which seemed promising in the preliminary trials conducted in England with samples of rhizomes shipped from Saint Vincent. By the end of the year arrangements had been made for the shipment of two of these mills for trial in Saint Vincent.

During the year an increase in price of one cent per lb. was negotiated by the Saint Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association for all grades of starch shipped to the U.S.A. A similar increase was given by buyers in the United Kingdom. Towards the end of the year, however, a further increase of 2 cents per lb. was obtained in respect of shipments to the U.S.A. subsequent to 31st October.

Sea Island cotton, which usually ranks second in the order of importance of the island's products, showed a considerable decline in production during 1947. So great was the drop that copra surpassed this crop in the value of the Colony's exports. A total of 1,598 acres were planted in Sea Island cotton for the 1946-47 crop compared with 3,140 acres in 1945-46. Of the 1946-47 acreage, only 579 acres were planted by estates. In spite of a fairly good average yield per acre over the entire island, total production fell to 548 bales as compared with 890 bales in 1945-46. Total production is the lowest in the history of the cotton industry of Saint Vincent since 1935. This decrease in acreage may be attributed directly to the price of 60 cents per lb. offered for lint, which, being so low, allows a satisfactory margin of profit only under the most favourable conditions.

Cotton, therefore, suffered greatly, due to the competition it faced for land from other crops more attractively priced and on which the risks involved were not as high as those for cotton. A further depressing effect on the industry was the severe mark down which the entire crop had suffered the year before due to quality defects. The fact that not a single bale escaped a price cut raised considerable doubts in the minds of growers about the accuracy of the grading of cotton in the United Kingdom and caused some loss of faith.

After prolonged negotiations the price for the 1947-48 crop was fixed at 84 cents per lb. of standard quality white lint. The delay in arriving at a firm price, however, resulted in the planting under other crops of lands which might have been sown with cotton had the new price been known before the beginning of the planting season in April-May. Final

returns for acreage were not available at the end of the year, but estimates, based on sales of planting seed and reports of agricultural officers, place the acreage for the 1947-48 crop at 1,811 acres with an estimated production of 600-700 bales of lint. This decrease in output comes at a time when the trade in superfine cotton is expanding, and it has been stressed that, if any considerable increase in area is to be effected in the coming season, a price satisfactory to the grower must be negotiated at an early date so as to allow growers to reserve land for cotton cultivation, and a standard system of grading adopted to facilitate bales being graded before shipment in order to protect the grower.

Up to the end of the 1945-46 season, two ginneries were in operation in Saint Vincent of which the larger, a Government responsibility known as the Central Cotton Ginnery, dealt with 85 per cent of the island crop. With the closing of the smaller ginnery, the Central Cotton Ginnery was the only one in operation during the 1947-48 season.

The Central Cotton Ginnery also maintains an oil expressing and refining plant, which operated during the year, producing both cotton-seed and coconut oil, with their by-products of stock feed and manure. During 1947 an additional oil expressing plant was purchased by the Central Cotton Ginnery from a competing concern, and by the end of the year its installation was well under way. Additional deodorising equipment was ordered by the Central Cotton Ginnery for the treatment of coconut and possibly fish oils, and it arrived in the Colony towards the end of the year. It is expected that the new deodorising plant will be erected during 1948.

The acreage under cultivation of the low quality, perennial, Marie Galante cotton declined still further during the year in the Southern Grenadines. In 1947 only 14,791 lb. of seed cotton valued at £92 was reaped in the group of islands. The planting of Sea Island cotton again proved successful in Mayreau, and efforts to eradicate the perennial cotton in time for planting the Sea Island type were made in the island of Canouan. These, however, were not completely successful and the planting of only a limited area was possible this season. It is hoped that growers in both Canouan and Union Island will be able to complete the change-over during 1948.

Owing to a world shortage of oils and fats, the coconut industry increased very considerably in importance and even now continues to occupy a major position in the island's economy. At the second Oils and Fats Conference held in Barbados in July of the year under review a new agreement was negotiated for copra fixing the price at £47 10s. per ton f.o.b. with effect from 1st September, 1947. A local Advisory Committee on the operation of the Oils and Fats Agreement has been set up, representative of all sections of the local coconut industry, to keep in touch with the Working Committee appointed by the Conference.

The total production of whole nuts for the Colony during 1947 is estimated at 10,000,000 from a total area of approximately 5,000 acres. Of this quantity nearly 90 per cent was produced by estates. The majority of the nuts produced by small holdings were peddled locally as green

"water" nuts, though there is an increasing tendency on the part of small growers, owing to the increased price for copra, to sell dry nuts to estates for processing.

Exports of copra during 1947 amounted to 1,185½ tons valued at £45,539, and 460½ tons were processed at the Central Cotton Ginnery to make refined oil, soap, stock feed and manure. In addition 68,498 whole nuts valued at £509 were exported during the year.

The production of sugar by the Mt. Bentinck factory, the only sugar factory on the island, has increased considerably during recent years, and attempts are being made to meet the island's requirements, and to produce in addition a small surplus for export. For the 1946-47 crop, a total of 1,790 tons of dark crystals was produced by the factory as compared with 1,526 for that of 1945-46. During 1947, total imports of sugar amounted to 409 tons or 20·5 per cent of the annual consumption as compared with 23·3 per cent for the previous year.

Further improvements were effected in the factory and estate organisation generally, and the ratio of 9·54 tons of cane per ton of sugar obtained over the 1946-47 crop may be regarded as very satisfactory. Of the island's total cane-production about 50 per cent was grown on estate-owned lands, and the greater part of the remainder by peasants in the neighbouring area.

During the year 44,992 proof gallons of rum were also manufactured by the Mt. Bentinck distillery.

There is little if any evidence of recovery in the fancy molasses export trade, and during the year exports of this product were negligible.

The cassava industry which increased considerably during war years because of high prices and enhanced demand, particularly in Trinidad, began to show a decline in 1945 when competing shipments from South America began to reappear on the market. The decline, however, was not as marked as was anticipated, and exports from the Colony in 1947, amounting to 565,320 lb. and valued at £8,992 were slightly greater than those for 1946. Prices in fact remained so favourable that the shipment of arrowroot starch under the guise of cassava was suspected. Total cassava starch production was estimated at 750,000 lb., of which about 40 per cent was produced by estates and, in addition, it is estimated that perhaps 5 per cent of the total area under cassava was utilised for the production of the local food known as "farine," while about 2 per cent was accounted for by "sweet" varieties consumed locally as a vegetable.

Prices offered for groundnuts continued to be so favourable as to seriously challenge Sea Island cotton for lands suitable for the cultivation of both crops. In spite of the changing conditions of the post-war markets, the export of groundnuts retained a favourable position in the island's economy. Weather conditions during the early part of the year were difficult, the dry season lasting for six weeks longer than normal, but despite this serious handicap, exports of groundnuts amounted to 498,624 lb., valued at £17,446, as compared with 285,011 lb., valued at £8,401 for the year 1946. Towards the end of the year, however, prices

showed a marked tendency towards a decline, and this will, no doubt, be reflected in decreased production during the coming year.

The severe drought experienced during 1947 had a decidedly adverse effect on food crop production throughout the island, and although about the same area as usual was devoted to the raising of food crops, yields were, in general, lower than those of previous years, and crops were later, with the result that seasonal shortages were experienced, particularly in regard to corn and ground provisions. Sweet potatoes, however, maintained their position on the list of exports, 24,678 bags valued at £18,374 being shipped in 1947, mainly to Trinidad, where a flourishing market for food crops generally has been established. Production of food crops is difficult to estimate, since nearly the whole supply is grown by peasants on small holdings, for which no records are available, but it is estimated that 10,000 acres are annually devoted to food crops, and that average annual production for the most common of the food crops are :

Sweet potatoes	.	.	.	.	.	9,500,000 lb.
Tannias, Dasheen, Eddoes	.	.	.	.	.	750,000 lb.
Yams	.	.	.	.	.	500,000 lb.

In addition, smaller quantities of maize, pigeon peas, beans, plantains, pumpkins, etc., are grown annually and make a considerable aggregate contribution to the island's food supply. Of great importance, too, and particularly during the past year of seasonal shortages, were the island's numerous breadfruit trees whose "bounty" has tided many a family and community over difficult periods of scarcity.

The exports of livestock this year showed a decided upward trend in spite of the efforts to control exportation to provide for local needs. Livestock took sixth place on the list of exports, displacing cassava starch in the order of its importance. Customs returns for 1947 show a total value of £16,782 for all classes exported as compared with £13,306 for the previous year. There is no doubt that this increase is due mainly to the extremely high prices commanded by all classes of animal meat and poultry in Trinidad, and it might be incorrect to conclude that these figures reflect any real increase in the island's production of livestock. It may even be that this increase has taken place at the expense of the number of breeding stock maintained on the island. But it is nevertheless heartening to observe that there exists in Trinidad a potentially lucrative market which may play an important part in developing a useful livestock industry in this island.

Fishery production is estimated at 800,000 lb. for 1947. A fair percentage of the fish caught in the Southern Grenadines was taken to Grenada where remunerative prices were paid.

Two thousand three hundred and seventy-eight gallons of black fish (pilot whale) oil, valued at \$3,567.00 were shipped to a firm in Barbados towards the end of the year.

## Chapter 7 : Social Services

### EDUCATION

Except in Canouan where the Government School was closed for a term as a result of a typhoid epidemic, attendance at school was not interrupted by epidemic or weather, and consequently the enrolment and average attendance figures have risen from 12,657 boys and 7,790 in 1946 to 12,900 and 8,331 respectively.

There were no changes in educational policy and system in 1947.

All the schools on the mainland and those in the Grenadines with the exception of a small school on the Island of Mustique were inspected, and more than one visit was paid to many.

The same curriculum as in 1946 was followed. The generous gift made by a member of the Board of Education, Mr. R. M. Anderson, of 10 silver cups for annual competition in English should here be mentioned with gratitude.

Shortage of qualified teachers was still acute. The first step in improving the position was taken with the enrolment of 29 student teachers from January, 1948. Ten of these young persons have completed the secondary school course, and 19 have undergone a three-year course of training during which time they taught in the primary schools for half the day and were instructed by supervising teachers, specially appointed for the purpose, for the other half.

The annual teachers' certificate and pupil teachers' examinations were held from 25th to 29th August, and of the 72 candidates examined 24 were successful. The percentage of passes was lowered by the entrants for the first-year pupil teachers' examination, where only one of 29 candidates reached pass standard. With the introduction of the part-time pupil teachers' system this class of teacher is being steadily reduced, and should be non-existent by 1950. On the other hand the pupil teachers of the second, third and fourth years have been studying and showed apparent eagerness to become qualified.

In September, primary school teachers along with all other Government employees, received an increase in cost of living bonus as from 1st January, 1947.

Lunch kitchens continued to function at eight schools.

The following improvements were made to school buildings during the year :

(1) A school building was erected at Mayreau to replace the one destroyed by a storm in 1944.

(2) For several years there was accommodation at the Buccament Government School for only about half the number of pupils enrolled, and through the kindness of the Methodists the Hope Methodist Church was used as an annexe. In 1947 a grant was made under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act for the purchase of land and erection of a building of 2,400 square feet approximately and of a teacher's house—a dire necessity in that area.

(3) The Head Teacher of the Union Island Government School was provided with very adequate and convenient quarters.

Several schools had the honour of visits from His Excellency Sir Arthur Grimble, K.C.M.G., during his last visit to the Colony as Governor of the Windward Islands.

#### *Grammar School (Boys)*

The school continued to increase numerically, the average attendance for the year being 203. Parents are realising more and more that secondary education is not a luxury for the few, but a necessity for all ; it is unfortunate that such heavy demands are made on Government funds that it has not been possible to erect the proposed new secondary school or to extend the present building to meet the demands of the community, although improvements have been under consideration since 1944.

In spite of difficulties the school kept up its standard of work. Early in the year news was received of the results of the Cambridge Local Examinations taken in December of the previous year : of 16 candidates 10 were successful, three being in Grade I, and four in Grade II : two candidates who had taken the Higher School Certificate for the first time in the history of the school received certificates. In December, 1947, 18 boys entered for the School Certificate and seven for the Higher School Certificate. The results have not yet been received.

The outstanding event of the year was the Inter-Schools Tournament in which the four secondary schools of the Windward Islands competed in cricket, football and athletics. The tournament, first held in 1922, was becoming almost an annual feature, until in 1940, on account of the dangers and difficulties of travelling, it had to be discontinued for a period of seven years. It was resumed with enthusiasm in April, 1947, and a very happy fortnight was spent in Grenada. The Old Boys who took part in the tournaments of the past, feel that the better understanding now existing between the units of the Windward Islands Group has, to a great extent, been the fruit of the tournament.

The Cadet Corps and the Scout Troop maintained their usual standard. The Cadet Corps spent an enjoyable week in camp during the vacation in August, and the scouts, for whom a camp could not be arranged had several profitable long route marches, paper-chases, etc. In Term III, the Medical Officer of Kingstown, an Old Boy of the school, delivered a course of interesting lectures to the scouts and cadets.

On the practical side interest was kept up in gardening and woodwork. The woodwork shop is small, but the ingenuity of the instructor, and the keenness of the boys, made it possible to carry on with fair results.

The social side of education was not neglected. A speech night was held at the end of Term II, when the senior school presented scenes from "Julius Caesar," and the junior school scenes from Molière's "Bourgeois Gentilhomme" while the school choir rendered "Hiroon," an ode to Saint Vincent composed and set to music by a member of the staff. Two successful teen-age dances were arranged by the pupils of Form VI, one at the end of Term II, and the other just before the Christmas vacation.

**Girls' High School**

The year 1947 was a critical one for the Girls' High School. Problems which had already become evident in 1946 grew more acute and pressing. The vacancy of the headmistress-ship led to a succession of acting appointments. Increased interest in education throughout the island caused an inflow of pupils which filled the classrooms to capacity. Moreover, the fact that some of these pupils came from poor environments, and that pupils from the country districts often lacked the proper supervision and care, could not escape attention, and gave great concern.

In spite of these difficulties, the school continued to make good progress. The pupils on the roll numbered 205 at the end of the year, and the average attendance was nearly perfect. The loyalty and interest of the staff helped to maintain discipline and a good standard of work.

Cambridge School Certificate results for 1946 were satisfactory. Of 19 candidates who entered for the examination, 13 were successful, six reaching Matriculation standard. Fourteen candidates were entered for the examination in December, 1947, and some preliminary work was done towards organising a class of students for the Higher School Certificate examination.

Increased interest in art and drama was shown throughout the school. At the end of the second term, the school held an Open Day, and the display of art and needlework won favourable comment. On Speech Day, the fourth form presented scenes from "As You Like It." The performance was repeated by special request in aid of Dr. Moody's Appeal Fund, and the sum of £27 was raised.

Satisfactory progress was made in the rest of the curriculum. During the third term a debating society was formed, and made a promising start.

The solution to one of the graver problems came towards the end of the year with the appointment of a new headmistress recruited from the United Kingdom, with wide professional experience. She arrived in Saint Vincent in December.

Problems of insufficient space and equipment were laid before the Government, and early consideration of these was promised.

**HEALTH**

Under present circumstances it is not possible to obtain statistics of diseases by occupations, and at the time of writing returns of the prevalence of mortality of diseases were not available. The returns of infectious diseases notified during the year indicate that in 1947 there were 119 cases of dysentery with one death, 249 cases of influenza with one death, 88 cases of pneumonia with 20 deaths, and 275 cases of enteric fever with 32 deaths. Whilst the number of cases of influenza are less than a third of those reported in 1946, pneumonia was more than twice as prevalent, but the outstanding feature of the year was the very large number of cases of enteric fever, due to a sharp epidemic in the island of Canouan, which was speedily got under control, and a general rise in the incidence of the disease throughout the whole year on the windward side of the island. Towards the end of the year there were signs that control was at least

being established. The most prevalent diseases are infestation with intestinal parasites, bronchitis and yaws. Owing to the fact that medical officers were not available in at least two districts throughout the year, an undue proportion of deaths were registered under "cause unknown" or the disease was ill-defined.

The institutional needs of the Colony are served by a single general hospital of 100 beds at Kingstown, and by two cottage hospitals of six beds each at Georgetown and Chateaubelair. Two other cottage hospitals are nearing completion at Bequia and Belair, and two more are projected at Biabou and Pembroke. Other central institutions include a pauper asylum for 125 inmates, a leper asylum which can house about 20, and a mental hospital for 100 cases. The seven rural districts are served, in addition to the cottage hospitals referred to above, by 20 dispensaries at which weekly clinics are held in most cases. These are slowly being replaced by permanent buildings with a nurse in residence, from which a daily service will be available for minor ailments which the nurse can deal with. Five of these new units are now in existence. During the greater part of 1947, two districts were without doctors in residence, due to vacancies in the medical officers' establishment, or to the granting of leave accumulated during the war years. There were also employed 17 district nurses and midwives, 10 dispensers and two staff nurses. Nine sanitary inspectors are posted to the rural districts, acting under the direction and supervision of a Chief Sanitary Inspector, whose duties are to ensure that the provisions of the Public Health Ordinance are observed, particularly with reference to buildings, nuisances, water supplies and similar matters. New developments during 1947 were all connected with schemes financed under Development and Welfare in the West Indies and described in the appropriate section of this report.

#### HOUSING

A full account of housing in Saint Vincent is contained in the Housing Survey of the Colony published in 1943. Over 10,000 houses and 50,000 people were included in this survey, and the findings may be epitomised thus: three-quarters of the houses consist of one or two rooms only, the majority being two-roomed; the walls of 62 per cent are of wood and 28 per cent of wattle and daub; 46 per cent of the roofs are corrugated iron and 40 per cent of thatch; one-third of the houses are in bad or poor repair; 77 per cent of the houses are overcrowded and 87 per cent of the people are living in overcrowded conditions by English standards, or 56 and 72 per cent respectively by local standards of 40 square feet of floor space per person; and, finally, over a third of these houses have no latrines. Nine out of every 10 houses are the property of the occupier, but in only 65 per cent of the cases is the land on which the house is built owned by the occupier of the house.

*Kingstown.* The Montrose Estate was acquired by Government in 1945 mainly with the intention of providing room for the expansion of Kingstown. The northern half of the estate was unsuitable for this purpose, but the southern half, comprising some 180 acres, was eminently suitable, both in locality and contour, for use as a residential area and for

other purposes connected with the town. The Government, having decided to put it to this purpose, conveyed this part of the land to the Central Authority and entrusted them to prepare a scheme to put their policy into effect. This scheme became statutory in July, 1946. Work commenced in November on two approach bridges to the area, and by the end of the year one mile and 33 yards of road had been formed, levelled and drained. Some 4,692 square yards of this road had been bouldered and metalled, of which 1,872 square yards had been oiled. In the process of road construction 270,000 cubic yards of earth had been excavated and removed and 4,827 linear feet of concrete drains and retaining walls had been built.

A regional scheme for Kingstown had been under consideration since June, 1946, and it became statutory on 8th July, 1947, as the "Regional Scheme for Kingstown and the Surrounding Area." The scheme dealt with an area of land lying within a radius of one mile of the Court House at Kingstown, and was purely prohibitive in character and intended to form a framework within which constructive supplementary schemes could operate. These supplementary schemes included the first Montrose supplementary scheme, which was already statutory, the second supplementary scheme for Kingstown and its surroundings which became statutory in May, 1947, and the third and fourth supplementary schemes which had not been formulated before the end of the year. It is anticipated that at a later date other supplementary and slum clearance schemes will be included within the area of the regional scheme.

The second supplementary scheme for Kingstown and its surroundings became statutory on 6th May, 1947. This is essentially a town planning scheme and it is believed to be the first of its kind to be adopted in a British Colony in the Caribbean. Within the scheme certain areas are zoned for warehouses, commercial enterprises, housing, educational purposes, hospitals, cemeteries and open spaces, and building and street regulations are made applicable to each of the zoned areas. The scheme was originally formulated by the staff of the Town Planning Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare from data provided by the Central Authority and it reached its final form under their guidance. The Kingstown Board were appointed as the local authority under the relevant Ordinance and their delegates participated in the discussions which preceded the adoption of the scheme. The scheme has not called for any expenditure of money so far except incidental expenses in connection with the marking of boundaries.

*Sandy Bay.* Sandy Bay is a Carib Settlement of about 80 acres situated on the North Windward coast on the lower slopes of the Soufriere Volcano. At the 1946 census the inhabitants numbered 923; they live in a fairly compact village on the lower slopes on land which is ill adapted for house-building, and which affords a very limited number of sites where a house could be built at all. Their water supply consisted of one well situated on the beach and 63 per cent of the houses had no latrines at all owing to the difficulty of constructing pits on the rocky soil. In times of heavy rain destructive torrents of water rushed down the hillside causing deep erosion channels, destroying crops and stock, and sometimes washing

houses away. For upwards of twenty years Government has been seeking means of affording relief for this community, and in 1943 some 24½ acres of land known as Delves Level was acquired adjacent to and running with the settlement and intended to form a spill-over area for the over-crowding which had resulted in the course of years from the dearth of house sites. No immediate action followed, however, until 1946, when Government acquired a further 13½ acres of land from the Orange Hill Estates, Ltd., comprising two areas on Big Sands known as Phyllis Level and Baptiste Level, with a view to removing the whole village, following disastrous floods in 1945 which did serious damage, swept away three houses, and very nearly demolished the school and church. In November, 1946, the task of effecting the removal of the village from the old to the new sites, was put into the hands of the Central Authority. A complete social survey of the old village had been undertaken in 1945 and this proved to be of inestimable value to the Authority in assessing the extent of the provision to be made.

An allotment survey of the three levels was undertaken by the Crown Surveyor, and his completed plans were laid in the hands of the Authority by January, 1947. Roads were laid out, and roads and lots were marked on the ground with concrete pegs. The plan followed suggestions made by some of the staff of the Town Planning Adviser to the Comptroller, C.D. and W., who visited the spot and made provision for 220 house spots, mostly 2,000 square feet each, but of which a few, particularly for the use of shopkeepers, were as large as 6,000 square feet. Areas were reserved for a dispensary and nurses' quarters, dispenser's quarters, church and school, recreation ground, cemetery and other buildings of a communal nature. The main residential and commercial area was established on Phyllis Level, and 161 lots were laid out there. On Baptiste Level, which is separated from Phyllis Level by a river, usually dry, 25 lots were laid out and reservations made for the public and communal activities of the village. Delves Level which lies on the hill above Baptiste Level, provided accommodation for 34 houses.

The intention of Government was to provide the inhabitants of Sandy Bay with freehold lots in New Sandy Bay Village free of rental, to help them to meet the charges for removing their houses, and to provide them with certain free services, particularly a good water supply, and to allow them to retain their lands in the old village for use as gardens. This was the policy which the Authority proceeded to put into effect. A series of meetings were held with the villagers, at which allocations of lots were made and the extent of assistance ascertained. These allocations were made to the owners of existing houses in the old village and to their sons and daughters who were living with them and were anxious to set up households of their own, but who had been prevented from doing so by the dearth of house spots in the old village. In all, 210 house spots were so allocated. The extent of the assistance required was then ascertained from each of those to whom a lot had been granted. It was carefully explained to all that this assistance would be rendered in kind, and only to a very limited amount in cash. Rather extravagant demands were made at first, but eventually, in most

cases, the offer of goods to the value of \$30·00, repayable by monthly instalments over a period of two to three years, was acceptable. The opportunity was taken to insist upon each householder accepting from the Authority on the same terms a concrete latrine, plate and box, which the Authority would install over a bore hole latrine, with a view to ensuring that every house in the new village was provided with a latrine. The villagers were to be debited with the cost of the latrine (\$4·00), and were themselves responsible for the erection of the superstructure. The Authority obtained permission from the Agricultural Superintendent to fell trees on Crown lands in the hills above the village, and employed sawyers to cut these into planks and scantling. Nails, shingles, felt roofing and other similar building materials were purchased from the Controller of Supplies and other sources, and this with the lumber were distributed to such villagers as had started building, at cost price either for cash, or against the amount of the loan sanctioned in each case. Agreements were drawn up and signed specifying the amount of loan and its manner of repayment, in accordance with the terms of the Town and Country Planning Ordinance, and these were deposited with the Registrar. Houses were under construction in the new village by April, 1947, and by 30th September, 1947, the end of the financial year, 63 families were resident in the new village, 96 bore hole latrines had been completed with 60 complete units supplied. A piped water system had been installed, taking water through 1,200 feet of pipeline from an excellent and plentiful source at Chamber Pool to a distributing reservoir of 8,000 gallons and thence to five public standpipes located throughout the village. Two public bath houses, one of three cubicles for women and one of four for men, were under construction at the end of the year. Work was commenced in September on a dispenser's quarters, the cost of which is defrayed by Colony funds, and of a dispensary and nurses' quarters under Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme No. D.433, "Rural Hospitals and Dispensaries".

Although future expenditure on the scheme will be largely restricted to the purchase of materials for sale for cash or against approved loans, and will be recoverable, it is anticipated that some further expenditure will be inevitable. The people who are moving these houses now—and the rate of flow appears to be only limited by scarcity of materials and carpenters—are incurring expenditure at a rate far above that of the financial assistance given them by the Authority, and presumably they can afford to do so. In many cases, entirely new houses have been built, many in masonry, and in nearly all the cases where an old house has been removed and re-erected, it has been enlarged to comply with the new building regulations of the Sanitary Authority, though this is not insisted upon but only encouraged. When all those who are in a position to do so have moved into the new village there will almost certainly remain in the old village some, the old, the sick and the wastrel, who cannot afford to move, or those whose houses are irremovable and who cannot afford to build again. Some further provision will have to be made for these, but its quality and extent will not be known until all who can move have done so. In order to ensure that no recurrence of the conditions obtaining in

the old village should ever arise in future, the Authority published a resolution on 11th April, 1947, prohibiting "development" in the Sandy Bay Land Settlement area (*i.e.*, the old village and garden area) in so far as the erection of new buildings is concerned. This carries an implication that no buildings at all will be allowed in the area, and so the Authority must accept responsibility that existing buildings are removed within a reasonable time.

*Chester Cottage.* In the vicinity of the factory at Grand Sable Estate there had arisen over a period of years an untidy village on estate land housing a colony of squatters. These had from time to time been subject to eviction and in early 1947 a more or less critical situation had arisen as a result, and the Government was faced with the question of finding a spot where the dismantled houses of the evicted, which littered the roadside, could be re-erected. The Government owned some 17 acres of land on a hill-top in the vicinity known as Chester Cottage, and it was decided to put this at the disposal of all squatters on Grand Sable Estate land. The Central Authority were given the task of implementing the proposal. The intention was to survey the Chester Cottage land, lay it out in plots and to proceed in the same manner as at Sandy Bay, except that in this case a freehold building plot was to be sold for £5 instead of given free. The owners of the four or five houses who had been turned off the land were allowed, however, to re-erect them in a corner of Chester Cottage at once before the site had been surveyed or the village laid out. Unfortunately this was followed by a number of further evictions and applications to the Court for more which would become effective in a few weeks' time. The Authority were thus forced to make provision for some 23 houses before any work on the site could be undertaken and before any arrangements had been made for assistance in the form of loans or materials. In consequence, the first 23 houses to be erected at Chester Cottage are houses from Grand Sable without improvement or extension. They have been arranged in an orderly manner, however, and most have been provided with a bore-hole latrine with plate and seat, as at Sandy Bay.

The breathing space thus afforded to the Authority was utilised in surveying and laying out the new village. In all 121 building plots were provided, of an average size of 2,800 square feet (40 feet by 70 feet), a small playground of 14,000 square feet was set aside, 20,000 square feet were reserved for any future government buildings, and roads were laid out to serve each plot. A catchment area of 24,000 square feet was under construction by the end of the year, which is intended to supply a tank to provide the village with its drinking water. The water question at Chester Cottage is a difficult one as it is set high up on a hill and there is no hope of obtaining water from wells or by gravity within a reasonable distance. The tank to be provided will not fully meet the needs of the village, but it is hoped to install a ram to provide an auxiliary supply from the river at the foot of the hill. By the end of the year, 115 lots had been allocated to those who at one time or another lived at Grand Sable, and who were accepted by the general run of the community as being members

of it. It is anticipated that future procedure will follow the lines adopted at Sandy Bay.

#### SOCIAL WELFARE

##### *C. D. and W. Schemes*

The two schemes, grants for which were obtained in 1946, one for the establishment of a youth centre in Kingstown, and the other for the erection of a permanent camping site at Camden Park, were completed in 1947. The present membership of the Youth Centre is over 150, divided among seven clubs which are affiliated to the centre. The centre provides facilities for tennis, net ball, captain ball, and, in the club-room, for such indoor games as table tennis, cards, etc. There is also a radio. The centre is run by a management committee comprised of two members of each affiliated club and two members of the Welfare Department. Each club paid an affiliation fee of \$2.50 monthly during 1947. The Government in 1947 gave a grant of £50 towards the upkeep of the centre.

During 1947 the centre has been the scene of two tennis tournaments and a netball tournament. It has undoubtedly filled a long-felt want in the social amenities of Kingstown by providing recreational and social facilities for the middle-class youth of Kingstown which had hitherto been lacking.

Development of the activities of the centre along rather more "intellectual" lines is now necessary.

The camping site consists of a hut with sleeping accommodation for about 20, a small dining room, a kitchen and pit latrine. It still needs to be furnished with cots and cooking utensils, since the funds available were not enough to accomplish this. It is situated near the sea on a portion of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Camden Park.

The scheme for the erection of a small village hall at Diamond Village, a grant for which was obtained in July, 1946, was held up during 1947 because of the difficulty experienced in obtaining a suitable alternative site to the one originally proposed. The necessity for this was brought about by the fact that the owner of the original site subsequently declined to sell. The matter is still being pursued.

##### *Handcrafts*

The trainee who had been sent to Trinidad to take a course in handcrafts in 1946 was taken into the Welfare Department in March, 1947, as home industries and handcraft instructress. She was posted to Barrouallie where for the rest of the year she conducted classes in handcrafts in a building rented by the Department for the purpose. It is too early yet to assess the results of this work. Her work consists in teaching pupils—all girls—to use the local straw and fibre materials—coconut, sansiveira, banana, pandanus, khus khus grass, etc.—to make articles such as hats, bags, slippers, table mats, belts, etc.

##### *Child Welfare Association*

This association completed its first year of activity in 1947. It has a management committee, of which the Administrator's wife is president.

The annual subscription for members is 5s. Total membership at the end of 1947 amounted to 80. Its activities consist in rendering assistance to children whom investigation has shown to be in need of such help. Assistance so far has taken the form of the provision of milk, payment of medical fees, and gifts of clothing. The association buys cloth which is made up into garments by the women's clubs affiliated to the Department. The association is kept in touch with necessitous cases through the poor relief division of the Welfare Department. It also undertakes the organisation of social events for the raising of funds. It is hoped that as funds accumulate the association will be encouraged to undertake more ambitious projects such as the maintenance of a day nursery for the babies of working mothers.

*The Saint Vincent Public Officers' Credit Union (Co-operative) Society, Ltd.*, came into being early in 1947. At the close of 1947 there were 50 members. Most of these were in the Police Department, but other departments—Medical, Education, Agriculture, Income Tax, Government Office, Audit and Treasury—were represented also.

The total receipts of the Credit Union for the nine months of its existence amounted to \$1,228.13, or roughly \$102 per month. The sum was made up of share capital, members' deposits, entrance fees, interest on loans and interest on deposits in the Government Savings Bank. During the period under review, loans amounting to \$441 were made to members. At the end of the year, the Union had \$774 on deposit in the Government Savings Bank. Expenses incurred in operating the Union amounted to \$63.74 of which \$58.45 was spent in purchasing books, stationery, etc., for starting work. No officer has received or has asked for any payment.

#### *Training Course for Group Leaders*

During the first week of September, 1947, the Department ran a training course for leaders of the groups affiliated to the Department. The Girl Guides also took the opportunity of sending delegates. The course consisted of instruction in simple co-operatives, club management, programme planning and physical recreation. Talks were given by representatives of the Agricultural, Medical and Labour Departments. A picnic was arranged at the camping site and a film-strip show was given. Sixty-seven group leaders representing 17 affiliated clubs and the Girl Guides and Methodist Groups attended. It is intended to have at least one annual course of this kind.

#### *Citizens' Advice Bureau Officer*

The first holder of this post resigned in July, 1947, and was replaced in due course. Applications for assistance in obtaining maintenance for children from husbands or fathers in Aruba, Curacao and Trinidad form a large majority of the cases dealt with by this office.

#### *District Welfare Officer*

The District Welfare Officer left for England in September, 1947, to take a two-year course in social science at Liverpool University.

*Social Welfare Training Course, Jamaica.*

One candidate from Saint Vincent attended the 1947 Social Welfare Training Course held in Jamaica this year.

*Other activities*

Club work continued as usual. The year was marked by an increase in inter-club activities such as competitive games. The clubs also showed development in their ability to manage their own affairs and to be independent. There are no significant changes or developments in this sphere of work to record, except that the absence of field officers must inevitably handicap rural club work, and this has resulted in a diminution of 4-H Club activities. Without trained instructors this work is difficult enough, and without organising officers as well, it becomes practically impossible. The third Annual Arts and Crafts Exhibition sponsored by this Department came off as usual in August. The *Saint Vincent Welfare News* continues to maintain its circulation at 650 copies per issue.

## Chapter 8 : Legislation

Legislation enacted during the year 1947 included the undermentioned Ordinances of importance :

*No. 4 : Protection of Animals*, whereby ample provision is made for the proper treatment of all animals and proper penalties provided for any breach or attempt at evasion of the provisions of the said Ordinance.

*No. 6 : Hotels Aid*, whereby provision is made for the encouragement of the hotel industry by granting certain relief in respect of customs duty on articles used in the construction or equipment of hotels.

*No. 8 : Public Officers' Guarantee Fund (Repeal)*, whereby the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund Ordinance is repealed and refunds to certain officers are authorised.

*No. 13 : Natural Disasters (Relief)*, whereby legislative recognition and statutory powers are given to the several committees appointed to provide relief in the event of any natural disaster to the Colony.

*No. 24 : Intestates Estates*, which provides for a more equitable distribution of the property of an intestate and the abolition of the ancient practice whereby the heir-at-law took the whole of the real estate on an intestacy.

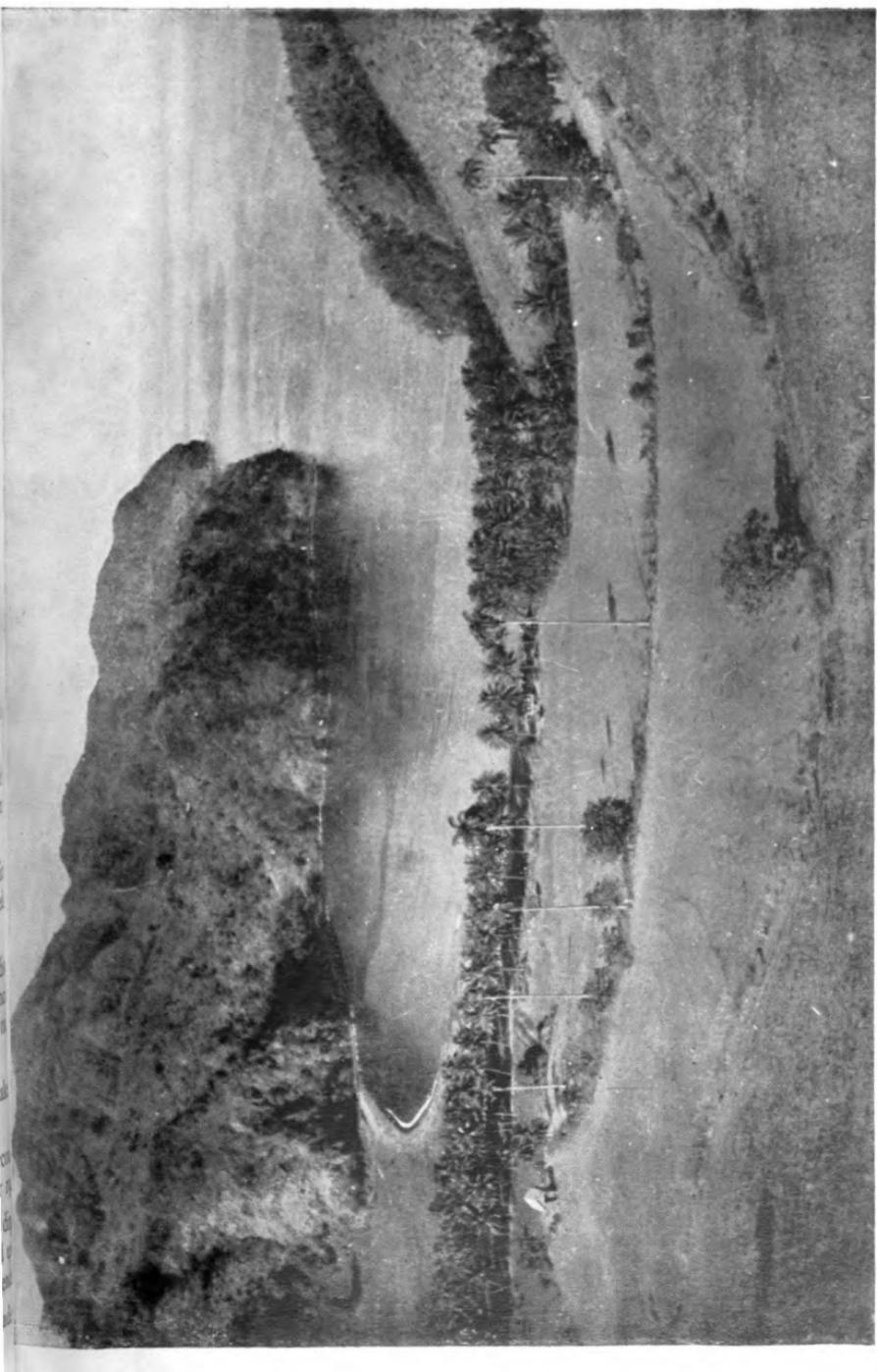
*No. 28 : Motor Vehicles Insurance (Third Party Risks)*, which makes it compulsory to insure motor vehicles against third party risks.

*No. 31 : Currency Interpretation*, whereby all Government accounts are to be kept in dollars and cents from the beginning of the year 1948.

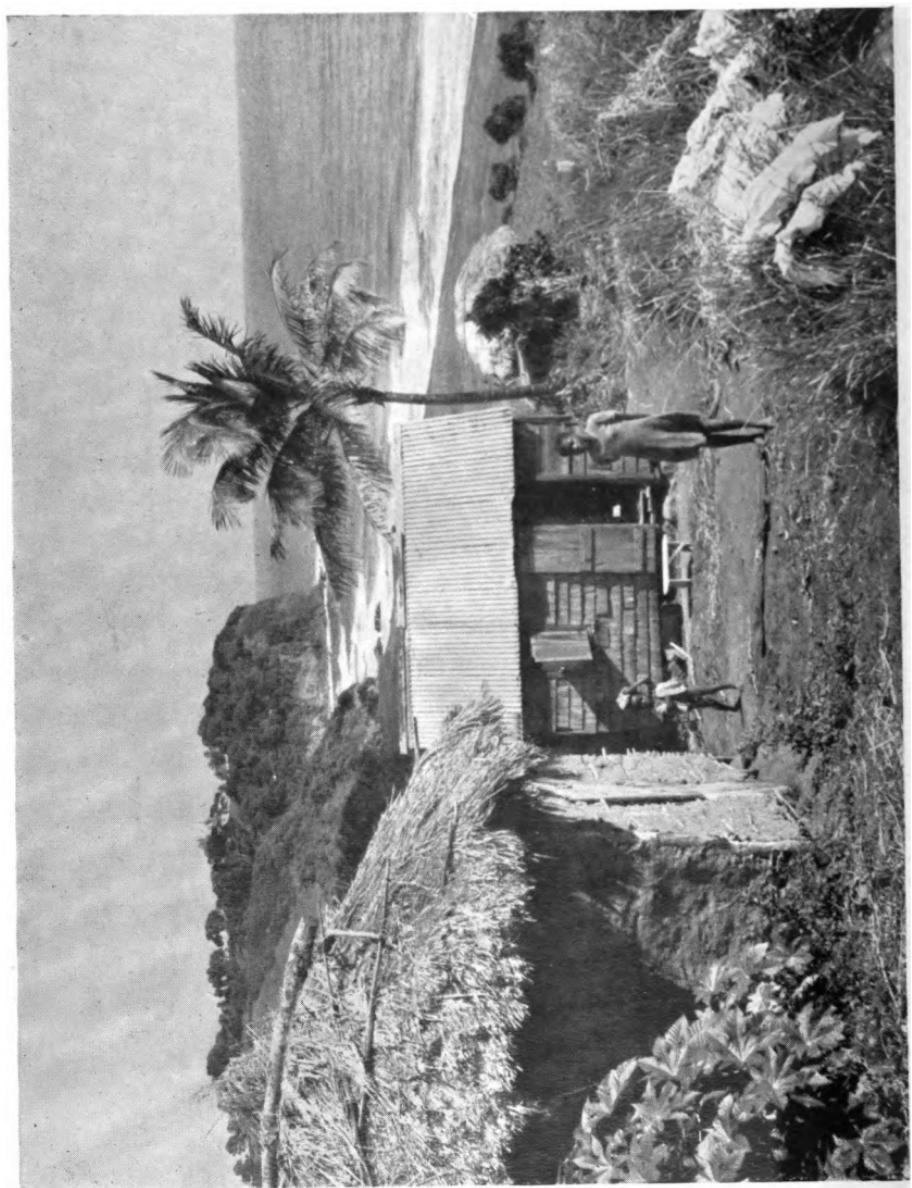
*No. 40 : Diplomatic Privileges*, whereby provision is made for diplomatic privileges and immunities of the United Nations and is based upon the Diplomatic Privileges (Extension) Act, 1944, of England as amended.

*No. 41 : Land Surveyors*, whereby very complete provision is made for the licensing and control of Land Surveyors.

CUMBERLAND BAY, SAINT VINCENT



COAST SCENERY WINDWARD SIDE SAINT VINCENT



No. 43 : *Entertainments*, whereby provision is made for regulating the use of places of entertainment, providing for the licensing thereof and the imposition of a tax on such entertainments.

No. 47 : *Education (Amendment)*, whereby provision is made for relieving scholarship winners of the need for signing a bond with a surety, for allowing the Governor in Council to increase the scholarship grant in special cases and also for permitting the Governor in Council to substitute an agricultural scholar for another who fails to complete his course.

No. 48 : *Police*, whereby the laws relating to the Police Force are consolidated for a period of twenty years; power is given to the Police to take finger-prints and a Police Reserve is set up.

No. 49 : *Income Tax (Amendment No. 3)*, whereby provision is made for increasing the deductions allowed to a taxpayer in respect of :

- (a) earned income ;
- (b) residence in the Colony and his status as a British subject ;
- (c) his wife and children ; and
- (d) insurance premiums.

Provision is also made for increasing the rates of income tax payable by individuals and companies and the rate of interest payable to non-residents and for allowing deductions in respect of a relative acting as housekeeper, and of dependent relatives.

## Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

### JUSTICE

The local system of law enforced by the Colony falls under the two main heads : statute law duly passed by legislation, etc., and the Common Law of England.

The following is a division of the Courts, Supreme Court and Magistrates' Court, and with the causes which are usually adjudicated there :

#### (1) *The Supreme Court*

(a) *Original Jurisdiction* : All matters which are heard and determined by the High Court of Justice in England, *viz.*, King's Bench Division, Divorce, Probate and Admiralty Division and Chancery Division, except as otherwise provided for by local legislation. An appeal from this Court lies to the West Indian Court of Appeal and thence to the Privy Council Committee.

(b) *Summary Jurisdiction* : To hear and determine without a jury or counsel, all civil actions, whether of a legal or equitable nature, and all matters arising thereout or incidental thereto, in which the debt or damage claimed, or the amount or value does not exceed £50 and in actions for the recovery of possession where the value does not exceed £30. An appeal from this Court lies to the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands Court of Appeal.

(c) *Criminal Jurisdiction* : In the exercise of its criminal jurisdiction the Court has cognisance of all treasons, felonies, misdemeanours and offences committed in the Colony or within three miles of any of the shores of the Colony; and of all treasons, felonies, misdemeanours and offences authorised to be tried and determined in the Court under and by any Imperial Statute now or hereafter to be passed for this purpose.

(2) *The Magistrates' Court*

(a) *Criminal Jurisdiction* : To hear and determine all complaints or informations for summary offences.

(b) *Civil Jurisdiction* : To determine all actions of contract or tort other than cases of detinue where the amount claimed or value of the thing claimed whether as a debt, balance of account or damages or otherwise is in the case of actions of contract not more than £20 and in the case of actions of tort not more than £10; for damages for detention of, and/or for the recovery of any chattel or thing which is not more than £20 and in cases for the recovery of possession where the value does not exceed £20; and generally in all other matters in which jurisdiction is by any law expressly given to Magistrates or Justices of the Peace. An appeal from the Magistrates Court lies to the Supreme Court in its appellate jurisdiction.

#### POLICE

##### *Organisation*

The establishment of the Force remains the same as it was in 1946 (i.e., two officers and 93 other ranks) and the strength, until October, was one officer and 93 other ranks. On 16th June the Acting Superintendent was appointed Superintendent with effect from 22nd September, 1946, and an Assistant Superintendent was appointed on 1st October. However, from 1st December the strength again dropped to one officer and 93 other ranks when the Superintendent was granted nine months' vacation leave, and the Assistant Superintendent was called upon to carry on the administration of the Force.

During the greater part of the year one officer and 58 other ranks were stationed at Police Headquarters, Kingstown, and the 35 other ranks were distributed between the twelve District Stations throughout the Colony. For the rest of the year the distribution was two officers and 61 other ranks at Police Headquarters, and 32 other ranks at the District Stations. The strength at Police Headquarters is divided as follows :

	Officers	S./Maj.	S./Sgt.	Sgt.	Cpls.	L/Cpl.	Com.	Total
Headquarters (Staff) .	.	2	1	1	2	—	1	7
Central Police Station	.	—	—	—	4	4	29	38
Criminal Investigation Dept.	.	—	—	—	1	2	2	6
Traffic Section	.	—	—	—	—	1	1	3
Under Training	.	—	—	—	—	—	9	9

Nine recruits were enrolled during the year to fill the vacancies created by deaths, resignations, dismissals and retirements. These recruits are being given extensive training over a period of six months under the direct supervision of the officers and senior non-commissioned officers.

The Fire Brigade, manned and operated by the Police and assisted by the Volunteer Fire Brigade, has continued to work efficiently, its only failures being due to the lack of water in the area concerned. A Dennis pump and two 23-gallon extinguishers (purchased from the army) and a tender-cum-personnel carrier were added to the strength of the fire equipment during the course of the year, bringing the total to four fire pumps and two tenders.

#### *Activities*

Apart from performing his normal police duties and various miscellaneous duties, every member of the Force has fired an annual range course—with the exception of a few stationed in the Grenadines, and those on the sick list at the time—and in addition he has received regular instruction in elementary foot and arms drill, etc.

The Department received a 1½-ton Ford truck as an addition to its mobile unit in the latter half of the year. Police transport at Headquarters at present consists of one tender-cum-personnel carrier (Ford truck), one motor-cycle, one tender and several bicycles (apart from the officers' private vehicles), for which there are 10 qualified and experienced drivers. The motor-cycle is attached to the traffic section at Police Headquarters.

The new Police Station building at Port Elizabeth, Bequia, was formally opened by His Excellency, the Acting Governor, on 15th December, before a large gathering of Government officials and local inhabitants. This station, built to accommodate one non-commissioned officer and two constables, is the most up to date of the district stations.

#### *Prevention and Suppression of Crime*

There was an improvement in the standard of efficiency of the Force as a whole, due chiefly to the following :

- (a) New comforts for the men, including the opening of a sick bay, constables' mess-room, non-commissioned officers' mess-room, non-commissioned officers' recreation room and the extension of the amenities of the canteen.
- (b) Lectures emphasising the importance of close co-operation between the Police and the public.
- (c) Increased transport facilities at headquarters.

A police launch was purchased primarily for coastal patrols, harbour duty and the transportation of personnel to and from the Grenadines and Chateaubelair. It is anticipated that when this launch is finally commissioned smuggling will be considerably reduced.

#### *Criminal Statistics*

The following table gives comparative figures for the last three years :

	1945	1946	1947
Crimes and offences investigated. . .	2,254	2,748	3,375
Crimes and offences brought before the Court . . . . .	1,499	1,676	1,641

The apparent large increase in crime in 1947 can be accounted for by more cases having come to the notice of the Police, due to closer co-operation between the Police and the public. Nevertheless, there was a slight increase caused by the prevailing high prices of local commodities, the high prices being paid for local produce and the unsteady conditions of things generally. The majority of crimes reported were for minor offences. There was one case of suicide in the Georgetown District.

#### PRISONS

The Prison administration was taken over by the new Superintendent (Major C. J. T. Anderson, Salvation Army), on 6th April, 1947. Efforts which are being made to modernise the prison and reform the prisoners are meeting with good results, especially among the young offenders who, despite the short period for which they are sentenced (a period of between one to six months), have given signs of definite change.

The boys are taught weaving, mat-making, brush- and broom-making from coconut fibres and sansivieria, cabinet-making and farming. Every effort is made to foster good behaviour by gradings and rewards. Boys of a certain grade are allowed to attend their respective churches on Sundays without the supervision of a warder, and no complaints or reports have been received of misconduct by any of them. Two of the number were allowed to receive instruction for confirmation and had their first communion while in the institution. Boys of a certain grade are sent regularly on errands outside the prison. The following privileges are allowed :

- (a) To attend the cinema when there is a suitable show, and to go sea-bathing.
- (b) To play indoor and outdoor games, including draughts, ping-pong, football and cricket, and to attend cricket and football tournaments.
- (c) Sunday leave at home with their relatives.
- (d) Rabbits, pigs and goats are given to the well-behaved boys at the time of discharge.

There was a change in the prisoners' dress during the year. Blue dungaree was substituted for white bag and duck clothing.

A marked increase of recidivism was noted during the year, due partly to the lack of a proper after-care system and a night-shelter.

#### *Health*

The health of the prisoners was very good. Although an epidemic of typhoid broke out in the Colony, there was only one enteric case in the institution.

#### *Discipline*

The discipline of the prisoners was satisfactory during the year. Despite the increased population, the offences committed were well below those of 1945.

**Admissions**

The total number of admissions for the year, including those persons on remand, compared with 1946, was as follows:

1946		1947	
<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
268	31	334	34

**Industries**

Concrete block-making was added to the manufacturing industries during the year. There is every indication that this industry will become a large contributor to revenue.

Revenue for the year was the highest total yet reached by this department. The industries accounting for this increase are agriculture, boot-repairing, baking and concrete block-making.

**Removal of Prison**

The scheme for the removal of the prison from its present site to the former Glen Community School was cancelled on financial grounds, but plans are now on foot to make the Glen School a federal approved school for juvenile delinquents.

## Chapter 10 : Public Utilities

### ELECTRICAL SUPPLY

The Electricity and Telephone Department controls three Government-owned and operated public utility services, which consist of the electricity-generating plant, the telephone services, which also include radio-telephone communication with the Saint Vincent Grenadines, and a cold storage and ice-making plant.

The electricity-generating plant is provided with four diesel-engine alternators, having a total output of 265 K.V.A., and supplies Kingstown and its immediate environs, terminating at the R فهو Mill Golf Club, a distance of approximately five miles from Kingstown. The current is supplied at 400 volt 3-phase 50 cycles for industrial purposes, and 230 volt single phase for domestic and lighting purposes. Nine hundred and eighty-five consumers are connected, representing a connected load of approximately 600 h.p.

Owing to the high and still rising cost of fuel, lubricating oil and spares, it has not been possible to reduce the cost per k.w.h. of current supplied to consumers, but the proposed hydro-electric project is due to be started as early as possible in 1948, and when completed would permit a reduction in cost to consumers to a minimum.

### TELEPHONE SERVICE

The telephone service consists of a two-position C.B.S. switchboard in Kingstown, and three small magneto boards in the towns of Calliaqua, Barrouallie and Georgetown.

The system is old and in poor condition due to original faulty construction resulting in high maintenance costs, and the question of renewal is under consideration by Government.

There are 328 subscribers served by this system which is not altogether self-supporting.

#### COLD STORAGE

The ice and cold storage plant consists of two electric motor-driven compressors of four tons capacity each. The ice-making plant, however, produces four tons of ice regularly per day, while the other compressor is used to keep the six cold rooms at the desired temperatures.

The demand for ice is far in excess of the capacity of the plant, in spite of the transportation charges and the price of ice, which are considered high. Consequently plans are being made for the construction of an entirely new ice and cold storage plant in keeping with current demands (approximately twice the present capacity). The present site of the plant cannot be extended easily, hence a proposal for a new site is being considered. It is expected that the three services—electricity, telephone and cold storage, with offices and store-room—will then be grouped in one compound. This proposal is aimed at centralising the three services, and facilitating their administration.

#### WATER-WORKS

The piped water supplies in the small towns of Chateaubelair, Barrouallie, Layou, Calliaqua and Georgetown were maintained throughout the year.

Delay in improvements to the Troumaca-Rose Bank-Coull's Hill supply has caused disappointment, as the necessary pipes could not be supplied by the Crown Agents up to the close of the year.

The pipes for the new Kingstown Water Supply have been arriving in the Colony and, with the completion of the engineering surveys, construction will begin in the dry season of 1948.

#### BROADCASTING ACTIVITIES

Recent applications have been received by Government requesting permission for the installation of radio broadcasting and re-diffusion facilities at Kingstown on lines similar to those of Trinidad and British Guiana. It is designed to re-broadcast programmes from the B.B.C. and C.B.S., and in addition, certain news broadcasts and talks from Trinidad of particular interest to the Caribbean area, and Trinidad local and sponsored news broadcasts. It is proposed that a limited liability company should be in control of this service, and that local people should be invited to invest in the company. No decision has yet been made by Government in the matter.

### Chapter 11 : Communications

#### SHIPPING

In consequence of adverse transport conditions following in the wake of the war, there has been no full-scale resumption of the regular steamship, passenger and cargo services to and from the Colony.

Occasional cargo calls continue, however, to be made by vessels of the Canadian National and Alcoa Steamship Lines, and these offer at the same

time limited passenger accommodation, which is supplemented by the periodic opportunities offered both north-bound and south-bound by visits from ships of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

#### AIR

Anti-erosion and drainage works were carried out at the Diamond Airfield under Development and Welfare Scheme No. 67A.

#### ROADS

The construction of the Cane Garden road was completed under Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme No. D.619.

#### Equipment

Three Aveling-Barford Diesel road rollers, Frederick Parker stone-crushing plant, and a Caterpillar No. 12 Diesel motor-grader—all ordered in 1945—arrived in the Colony in 1947.

#### Vehicles

In spite of the ban on the importation of vehicles of every type for several months of the year, the following figures, showing a steady increase, will give some idea of the great demand that still exists and will continue to exist for some time to come :

		1945	1946	1947
Cars	.	178	181	242
Buses	.	40	41	51
Trucks	.	25	25	39
Motor-cycles	.	15	15	17
<b>TOTALS</b>	.	<u>258</u>	<u>262</u>	<u>349</u>

Traffic halt signs have continued to play a very great part in the control of traffic in Kingstown, and they have been responsible for the release of several constables who would otherwise have been required for point duty or for more important tasks. Experience in the past year has made it plain that several more of these signs are still required, not only in Kingstown, but also in the more important country districts. It is hoped to put this into effect in the very near future.

There have been few accidents during the year.

#### POSTS

There are 11 Post Money Order Offices in Saint Vincent, but no Post Telegraph Office. A branch of Cable and Wireless (West Indies), Limited, operates in the Colony.

During 1947, a total of 686,512 postal articles were dealt with, as compared with 776,619 for the previous year.

#### RADIO TELEPHONE SYSTEM

A 10-watt Marconi transmitter receiver has been installed at Union Island, one of the Grenadines, and daily communication with Saint Vincent is being maintained through Cable and Wireless, Ltd., at Kingstown.

A similar set has been ordered for Bequia, and should be in operation by the summer of 1948.

## Chapter 12: Public Works

Apart from the many works undertaken with Development and Welfare Grants, a large Public Works Extraordinary programme from local funds was carried out in 1947, together with intensified maintenance.

### COMMUNICATIONS

Bridges have been built at Freeland, Dauphnie, Troumaca, Carriere and Caruth.

The Sion Hill Road has been metalled (in preparation for oiling in 1948) from Sion Hill Market to the boundary of the town of Kingstown, curbs have been built, and a concrete drain laid. The Kingstown Park Road has been reconstructed and oiled from the Kingstown boundary at Paul's Avenue to the junction with the Sharpe's Branch Byeway. Metalling and other improvements have been effected on the Calder-St. Sylvan's Road, the Mount Pleasant Road, and the Murray Village Road. Roads through Montague and Caruth Villages and through Montrose Village have been improved.

Two curves have been reduced on Section 8 of the Windward Highway at North Union by the cutting of embankments. This earthwork provided employment for male estate labourers in the out-of-crop period.

Relief work has been provided in 1947 on Sections 5 and 6 of the Leeward Highway (from Mount Wynne to Belle Isle) for unemployed inhabitants of the town of Barrouallie.

Retaining walls, revetments and rails have been constructed on the Richmond Hill Land Settlement Road, the Sion Hill-Murray Road Junction (where a sharp curve has been considerably reduced), Section 8 of the Windward Highway at Sans Souci, the Cumberland Valley Road, and the Edinboro Road.

Culverts have been built for drainage improvement at Section 7 on the Leeward Highway, on Section 1 of the Vigie Highway, on the Glen-Fair Hall Bye-way, and on Section 2 of the Windward Highway.

Storm damage to communications in 1947 has been relatively small, and most of the damage resulted from heavy rainfall (10.6, 9.4 and 11.3 in. respectively) in the months of July, September and October, in an otherwise dry year. The areas chiefly affected have been the Carib Country, the Park Hill Land Settlement area, the Marriaqua Valley, the Belair Land Settlement area and the Gomea Valley.

A new jetty in greenheart and concrete has been built at Port Elizabeth in Bequia.

### BUILDINGS

An administration building (to house Police, Magistrates' Court, Revenue and Customs, Post Office, and Agricultural Office) has been completed at Port Elizabeth in Bequia.

A building to contain the men's mess room and sick bay has been constructed at Police Headquarters in Kingstown.

Additional bathrooms and lavatories have been built in an annexe to the Nurses' Quarters at the Colonial Hospital, and similar facilities have been added to the male and female wards. The entire Colonial Hospital has been repaired and painted, and alterations have been made to store-rooms to increase storage space.

The renovation and painting of the house for the District Welfare Officer in Georgetown have been completed, and the house is ready for occupation.

All the Government buildings in Chateaubelair (doctor's quarters, hospital, dispensary, mortuary and police station) have been repaired and painted. A bathroom has been added to the Hospital.

New roofs have been put on the Treasury Building and the District Medical Officer's quarters at Belair.

The records storage space at the Treasury has been enlarged.

A new vault has been constructed in the General Post Office and more parcel storage accommodation has been built.

The buildings on Young's Island (the Observation Station and the Isolation Hospital) have been extended and improved, and a new water supply has been installed. Two new boats have been purchased and put into use at Young's Island.

The Girls' High School buildings have been painted and the drive-way has been oiled.

The Teacher's quarters at Union Island have been renovated.

New quarters for a Dispenser have been built at Sandy Bay.

An office for the Assistant Superintendent of Works and the Foreman of Works has been fitted over the workshop.

New racks have been built in the Government Office Stationery Store.

A new Revenue Office has been fitted out at Barrouallie.

Minor alterations have been effected in the Magistrate's Office at the Court House.

Alterations have been made in the Customs No. 1 Warehouse to increase accommodation.

One of the buildings from the Military Camp at Arnos Vale has been dismantled, conveyed by sea to the island of Mayreau in the Grenadines, and re-erected there as a school.

#### EQUIPMENT

A concrete mixer has been obtained.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Due to difficulties of supply in the United Kingdom, the Crown Agents have not been able to send out the requisite piping for the Troumaca Water Supply. This work has therefore been delayed.

Action has been taken to remove houses near the German Gutter at Troumaca.

Negotiations have been carried out for the purchase of land to enlarge the King George V Playing Field at Arnos Vale.

Improvements to the latrines at the Chateaubelair town extension have been completed.

A set of sleeping-cots has been provided for juvenile offenders at the Kingstown Prison.

A dyke to deter sea-encroachment has been built at the Ashton Cemetery in Union Island.

Anti-flood control measures in the form of the construction of rip-rap stone embankments have been carried out on the Teviot River in the Marriaqua Valley.

#### SMALL TOWNS AND VILLAGES

To relieve unemployment in the town of Barrouallie anti-flood and drainage works were undertaken by the Public Works Department with funds specially voted by Government, using labour recruited from the inhabitants of Barrouallie.

Village improvements started by the Public Works Department at Brighton, Caratal, Chili, Stubbs and Spring could not be continued because most of the building materials were handed over to the Central Housing and Planning Authority for its use. However, improvements have been carried out at Spring Village in the Cumberland Valley.

#### SURVEYS

The Surveys Branch of the Public Works Department has executed nineteen surveys for the year in the following places : (i) Arnos Vale, (ii) Vermont, (iii) Union Island, (iv) Fountain, (v) Chili, (vi) Caratal, (vii) Georgetown, (viii) Jennings Valley, (ix) Villa, (x) Edinboro, (xi) Chester Cottage, (xii) Stubbs, (xiii) Mount Pleasant, (xiv) Bridgetown, (xv) Kingstown Park, (xvi) Sion Hill, (xvii) Cane Garden, (xviii) Murray Road, (xix) Young's Island.

## PART III

### Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

THE island of Saint Vincent is situated in the Caribbean Sea at longitude about  $61^{\circ}14'$  west and latitude about  $13^{\circ}9'$  north. Its total area, including its Grenadines dependents, is about 150 square miles.

The main island is about 133 square miles in area, with a maximum length of 18 and width of 11 miles. It is roughly elliptical in shape, with its long axis approximately north-south. A backbone of thickly wooded mountains extending along the main axis divides the island into Windward and Leeward districts. The topography is very broken, and numerous spurs run down in irregular ridges from the axial range to the sea.

The climate is healthy. There are two seasons: the dry season usually extends from January to April, and the wet season from May to December. During the period December to April the weather is cooler and more pleasant.

The annual range of temperature varies from  $67^{\circ}\text{F}.$  to  $89^{\circ}\text{F}.$  as a rule, with a maximum seldom over  $92^{\circ}\text{F}.$  in the shade.

The rainfall at the Botanic Station, where records have been kept for the longest period, was 79.75 in. in 1947. This was considerably less than the fifty-three year average of 101.57 in. for the period 1894-1946, and a marked contrast to the previous year when 112.41 in. were recorded at the same station. Distribution was very unusual, with the dry season extending into June, and a very dry November, with only 3.22 in. in a month which is normally the wettest in the year. The highest monthly precipitation, 12.48 in., was recorded in July.

The highest reading of the barometer was 30.035 in., recorded on 11th August, while the lowest was 29.825 in., on 11th November. At no time during the year was there serious anxiety over hurricanes.

At the Kingstown station the mean monthly temperature for 1947 was  $79.37^{\circ}\text{F}.$ , the highest was  $81.22^{\circ}\text{F}.$  for October, and the lowest  $76.22^{\circ}\text{F}.$  for March. The weather in 1947 was comparatively cool, judging from both the 1946 figures (when the mean was  $79.47^{\circ}\text{F}.$  and the monthly extremes  $81.05^{\circ}\text{F}.$  and  $77.02^{\circ}\text{F}.$ ), and the eight-year average for 1939-46 (when the mean was  $80.35^{\circ}\text{F}.$  and the extremes  $81.59^{\circ}\text{F}.$  and  $78.53^{\circ}\text{F}.$ ).

An earthquake shock was recorded at the Agricultural Department's Head Office on 26th June.

### Chapter 2: History

Saint Vincent was originally inhabited by Caribs, who were living free from care in their beautiful island of Hairoun—"Home of the Blessed"—when Christopher Columbus discovered the island on 22nd January,

1498, and named it after the Saint whose martyrdom is celebrated on that day. He sailed away, leaving the Caribs in undisputed possession—a state which they enjoyed until 1627 when Saint Vincent was included in a patent given by King Charles I to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 England and France agreed that the island should be neutral, but in 1672 King Charles II granted it to Lord Willoughby.

Soon after Lord Willoughby received the island the first people of African origin came to Saint Vincent. These were a number of slaves who had been shipwrecked in the Grenadines and eventually reached Saint Vincent. They soon intermarried with the Caribs, and before long a new type of inhabitant was found in the "Black Carib." The Yellow and Black Caribs could not live happily together, and the Yellow men invited the French from Martinique to assist them in getting rid of their Black brothers. But the French found these people of virile stock hard to conquer, and returned to Martinique within a short time. A few decades later the relations between the French and the Black Caribs improved, and French settlements were made along the Leeward Coast in places which still bear French names—Chateaubelair, Petit Bordel, L'Anse Mahaut, etc. It was the French who first settled where the capital, Kingstown, now stands, along the spacious bay on the south-west, which has often reminded visitors of the words of Horace : " Nullus in orbe sinus Baiis praelucet amoenis." The influence of the French may still be seen in an old-fashioned paved street in the middle of Kingstown.

When the War of the Austrian Succession was brought to an end by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, Saint Vincent was declared neutral, but was captured by the British only fourteen years later in 1762, in the struggle which made England mistress of Canada and India.

Soon after the conclusion of peace in 1763, European settlers began to arrive in Saint Vincent. Land that had been held by the Caribs was taken or bought for little and given to the newcomers. Such treatment infuriated the Caribs, who broke into open violence in 1772, and continued to fight for their rights for several months, until subdued by troops brought from abroad ; they were obliged to come to terms, accepting as their portion of the island the fertile north-eastern section. A silver medal struck in commemoration of the signing of the peace treaty may be seen in the Museum of the Public Library in Kingstown. It bears the inscription : " For Peace and Prosperity to St. Vincent."

During the American War of Independence, when France declared war on Britain in 1778, Saint Vincent fell into the hands of the French, largely on account of the lethargy and indifference of the Governor, who had decided to use the troops at his disposal as labourers on the estate he had acquired from the famous Carib Chief, Chatoyer. With the signing of the Treaty of Versailles in 1783, Saint Vincent was restored to the English, never again to pass into foreign hands.

Before the end of the eighteenth century England and France were again at war, and the French from Martinique stirred up the Caribs to rebel. Led by Chatoyer, the insurgents offered the English much greater resistance than they had ever offered in the first Carib War, and a dreadful war would have ensued had not Chatoyer, their brilliant leader, met his

death on Dorsetshire Hill, a ridge overlooking the capital, in single combat with Major Alexander Leith, whose remains lie beneath the aisle of St. George's Cathedral, Kingstown. In spite of the death of their chief, the Caribs held out until Sir Ralph Abercrombie arrived to end the war, which was waged from March, 1795, until June of the following year. The majority of Caribs, on surrendering, were deported to the island of Ruatan in the Bay of Honduras. Those who were left never again attempted to resist the English. Only a few Caribs of pure origin are to be found in the north of the island, and they may now be well described as a "vanishing race." The most interesting remains of that primitive people are the stone axes, knives, etc., now kept in the Museum of the Kingstown Library, and some large stones, probably altars, with peculiar engravings, which are to be found in different parts of the island.

After peace was restored to the island, the English planters made considerable progress. Sugar, the chief product, brought a good price, and to make it easy for planters to convey their sugar to Kingstown by land instead of by sea, the Government undertook to maintain a satisfactory road between the Carib Country, the great sugar area, and Kingstown, and constructed at Byera Hill, near Georgetown, a tunnel 250 ft. long.

In the eighteen-thirties a great change took place in the economic and social structure of the island. Through the efforts of Wilberforce, Clarkson, Buxton and others, slavery was abolished in 1834, and although England gave considerable compensation to the masters of slaves, they were still poorer than before their slaves were liberated, and found it extremely difficult to maintain the production of sugar as before. The former slaves were unwilling to work for low wages, and tried, as far as they could, to be independent and to acquire lands of their own. They made marked improvement, with the result that in 1851 the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir John Campbell, could write about them: "As a general rule they possess, beyond all reasonable question, most of the essential elements of progress, and in a pre-eminent degree, natural intelligence and quickness of perception sharpened by a praiseworthy desire to better their condition."

Fourteen years after the abolition of slavery, Portuguese were imported in fairly large numbers from Madeira to work on the estates, where the Blacks had refused to work, and a little more than a decade later East Indians arrived for the same purpose. Both the Portuguese and the East Indians made progress, and are well respected throughout the island.

In the second half of the last century the price of sugar fell and a serious depression set in, which lasted until the end of the century. Before prosperity returned, the island suffered a great calamity in the hurricane of 1898, which destroyed about 300 lives and damaged many buildings. This was followed four years later by a disastrous volcanic eruption, which devastated the northern part of the island. These disasters shook the morale of the people, who for some time after seemed inclined to adopt an oriental fatalistic philosophy.

At the beginning of the present century steps were taken to ameliorate

the condition of the people by the introduction of a peasant land settlement scheme, and to assist the scheme an agricultural school was established, which functioned for twelve years. In 1903 Sir Daniel Morris, Commissioner for Agriculture for the West Indies, introduced the growing of Sea Island cotton. But the most profitable product of the Colony is arrowroot, the monopoly of which Saint Vincent still holds.

Prior to the abolition of slavery the Churches were solely responsible for education. In 1834 Government made its first grant of £80 towards education, and by 1849 there were 27 aided primary schools receiving a Government grant of £800 per annum, and a co-educational secondary school was opened with a roll of 19 pupils. But unfortunately an outbreak of yellow fever in 1853 and of cholera in 1854 crippled the finances and decimated the population of the island; and the secondary school and most of the primary schools had to be closed in 1855. Education struggled on with a "chequered career" until 1908, when both primary and secondary education were established on a sound basis and a resident inspector of schools was appointed. In 1922 Government decided to award biennially a scholarship tenable for five years at any university in the British Empire.

Saint Vincent is at present making progress, and presents an entirely different appearance from that of fifty years ago; and it is to be hoped that still greater progress will be made through the assistance given under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, which has already brought improvements, *inter alia*, in sanitation, town-planning, roads and schools.

## Chapter 3 : Administration

### CONSTITUTION

The Government of Saint Vincent originally consisted of a Governor, Council and Assembly. In 1856 an Executive Council was created. In 1867 the Constitution was found no longer suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony, and the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were abrogated and a single Legislative Assembly was created, composed of 12 members—3 *ex officio*, 3 nominated by the Crown and 6 elected by the people.

This Constitution in turn was abrogated by an Act of the local Legislature, by which the future modelling of the Constitution was left to the Crown. Until December, 1924, the Legislative Council consisted of official and unofficial members nominated and appointed by the Crown.

By an Order in Council dated March, 1924, as amended by Order in Council dated February, 1931, a partly elected Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of the Governor, 3 *ex officio* members, 1 nominated official member, 1 nominated unofficial member and 3 elected members. The island was divided into three electoral districts, each returning one elected member. It was provided that an election should take place every three years, and elections under this Constitution took place in 1925, 1928 and 1931.

The Council elected in 1931 was retained in office by Imperial Orders

in Council for three further periods of one year beyond the normal term, and was finally dissolved on 17th December, 1936.

A new Legislative Council for the Colony of Saint Vincent was constituted by Order of His Majesty in Privy Council, dated 27th October, 1936. The unofficial representation was increased from 3 elected and 1 nominated to 5 elected and 3 nominated members, while the official membership was reduced to two in number. The Colony was divided into five electoral districts, the Grenadines for the first time being constituted a district. The opening session of the new Legislative Council, at which His Excellency the then Governor, Sir Selwyn Grier, presided, was held on 6th April, 1937.

There is an Executive Council consisting of the Administrator, the Crown Attorney and the Treasurer as *ex officio* members, and of such other persons as may be appointed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, or as the Governor in pursuance of instructions from His Majesty may from time to time appoint by instrument under the Public Seal. Every member who is not an *ex officio* member vacates his seat at the end of six years. Every member is eligible for re-appointment.

The municipal affairs of the town of Kingstown are under the control of the Kingstown Board, which consists of four elected and four nominated members. The Board is elected every two years.

#### JUDICIAL

A resident Puisne Judge presides over the Supreme Court of the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands in Saint Vincent. The Supreme Court has an appellate, a civil and a criminal jurisdiction, and also hears matters in its Probate, Divorce and Admiralty jurisdictions.

The Colony is divided into three Magisterial Districts. Districts I and II consist of the islands of Saint Vincent and Bequia. District III consists of the islands of Union, Mayreau and Canouan.

There are three Magistrates, one being the Magistrate of Districts I and II, the other being the Magistrate of District III, and the third being the Additional Magistrate of the Colony.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANISATION

In Saint Vincent, apart from daily paid labourers and casual workers, Government had in its employ, at the end of the year under review, 839 persons. On the basis of the recent census, this gives a ratio of one Government employee to every 73 of the population. Around this organisation moves the public life of the Colony—administration, health, law and order, education, agriculture, public works, business, industry, social welfare, and the other activities which go to make up an ordered society.

A Staff List showing the principal officers in the Public Service of the Colony at 31st December, 1947, is annexed as Appendix VI.

#### Local Government

Town Boards exist in Kingstown, the capital, and in the following small towns : Georgetown, Calliaqua, Layou, Barrouallie, Chateaubelair, Port Elizabeth, Bequia.

*Kingstown Board.* The Kingstown Board is a body corporate consisting of eight persons half of whom are elected members and the other half nominated by the Governor. The term of office is limited to two years, but members are eligible for re-election or re-nomination.

Certain changes in the constitution of the Board are contemplated; the most progressive will be provision for the election of all members to mark the first fifty years of the life of the Board—an event which was celebrated on 31st December.

*Small Towns.* The Small Towns Regulations give power to the Governor to appoint, from year to year, as many persons as he thinks fit to be Town Wardens for each of the small towns.

*Village Councils.* Legislation for the establishment of Village Councils was under consideration during the year.

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS

This service is not developed to any extent.

A variety of material is received, mainly from the Central Office of Information and from the British Council, for distribution. This material consists of photographs, stereos, posters, books, illustrated magazines and articles, etc. These are distributed from the office of the Social Welfare Department to other Departments, clubs and institutions.

The Government-sponsored *Social Welfare News*, a bi-monthly newspaper published by the Social Welfare Department, exists for the purpose of informing the public as to social welfare development, and it can be used by the other Departments as well. Matter for publication is received regularly from Government Office.

### Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

Imperial weights and measures are in use in the Colony, and a new and improved system of checking is to be adopted in 1948.

### Chapter 5 : Newspapers and Periodicals

Two newspapers are published weekly: *The Times* and *The Vincentian*. The *Saint Vincent Government Gazette* is also issued weekly, while the *Saint Vincent Welfare News*, sponsored by the Social Welfare Department is issued bi-monthly.

### Chapter 6 : Bibliography

The following is a list of the main publications, reports and memoranda on the most important subjects connected with the Colony. A separate list of Government publications available for sale to the public is annexed as Appendix VII.

## AGRICULTURE

*Agricultural Credit*

*Memorandum*, by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson, M.B.E., D.I.C.T.A., M.S.).

*Report on an Investigation of Credit Facilities for Small Cultivators in the Windward Islands* (1945), by E. L. Jack, Chairman of the Jamaica Loans Societies Board.

*Agricultural Policy*

*Memorandum on an Agricultural Policy for Saint Vincent* (as presented by the Land Settlement and Development Board and adopted by the Legislative Council, 1946).

*Agricultural Staff*

*Memorandum*, by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson).

*Land Settlement*

*Land Settlement and Development Ordinance, 1945.*

*Memorandum* (1944), by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson).

*Marketing of Local Produce*

*Memorandum*, by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson).

*Processing*

*Memorandum* (1944), by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson), on Arrowroot Research.

*Report*, by A. R. Williamson, B.Sc., on the Organisation Technique and Equipment of the Arrowroot Industry in Saint Vincent, together with recommendations for its future.

*Memorandum* (1944) by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson), on Co-operative Arrowroot Factories.

*Memorandum* (1944), by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson), on Government Cotton Ginneries.

*Report*, by Mr. P. W. Briggs, on Cotton Ginneries in the Leeward and Windward Islands and Barbados—18th March—17th September.

*Soil Conservation*

*Memorandum* (1944), by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson).

## CENSUS

*Preliminary Report on the Census Returns of 1946*, by the Saint Vincent Census Officer (R. N. Jack, Labour Commissioner).

*Preliminary Report on the Census of Agriculture*, by the Saint Vincent Census Officer (R. N. Jack, Labour Commissioner).

## CIVIL SERVICE

*Report* (1944) of Committee under the chairmanship of K. W. Blackburne, C.M.G., O.B.E., Administrative Secretary to the Comptroller for

Development and Welfare in the West Indies, on questions of staffing of Government Departments and of Salaries of Civil Servants in Saint Vincent.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

*Preliminary Report* (August, 1944), by S. R. H. Beard, M.I.Mech.E., Harbour Engineer, Trinidad, on Kingstown Port Improvements.

*Supplementary Report* (October, 1944) on Kingstown Port Improvements.

*Report on Fact-Finding Meeting on Shipping for British Caribbean Area*, held at Headquarters of the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in Barbados in July, 1947.

*Memorandum* (January, 1944), by the Superintendent of Public Works (G. A. Grant), on a Ten-Year Road Construction Scheme for Saint Vincent.

#### DEVELOPMENT

*A Plan of Development for St. Vincent, 1946-56*, compiled and edited by Bernard Gibbs, Government Secretary, under the direction of R. H. Garvey, C.M.G., M.B.E., Administrator of Saint Vincent.

#### ECONOMICS

*Memorandum on the National Income of St. Vincent, 1942*, by Dr. Frederick Benham, Ph.D., B.Sc. (Econ.), sometime Economic Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

*Report (1943) on the Public Finances of St. Vincent*, by Dr. Frederick Benham, Ph.D., B.Sc. (Econ.).

#### EDUCATION

*Memorandum (1943)*, by S. A. Hammond, C.M.G., M.A., Educational Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies, on Education in Saint Vincent.

*Memorandum (1946) on Suggestions for a School-Building Programme*, by the Education Officer (J. W. Forrest, M.A.).

#### FISHING INDUSTRY

*Memorandum (1945) on the Fishing Industry in St. Vincent and the St. Vincent Grenadines*, by Dr. H. H. Brown, M.A., Ph.D., Director of Fishery Investigations in the British West Indies.

#### FORESTRY

*Report (1944) on Forestry in St. Vincent*, by the Conservator of Forests, Trinidad and Tobago, after preliminary visits by J. S. Beard, Assistant Conservator.

#### GENERAL

*Handbook of St. Vincent*, by R. M. Anderson, M.B.E.

## GEOLOGY

*A Geological Investigation at the Soufriere Volcano, April, 1946*, by Dr. A. Senn, Geologist attached to the British Union Oil Co., Ltd., Barbados.

*The Geology of St. Vincent and the neighbouring Grenadines*, by Kenneth W. Earle, M.Sc., F.G.S.

## HEALTH

*Proposals for a Policy for the Medical Department, St. Vincent, particularly in respect of the ten-year period, 1946-56*, by the Senior Medical Officer (Dr. W. L. Webb, M.B., D.P.H.).

*Report of a Malaria Survey (1944) of St. Vincent*, by Dr. L. J. Charles, M.B., Malariologist, Leeward-Windward Islands.

## HOUSING

*Report upon a Survey of Housing and Sanitary Conditions undertaken in St. Vincent during 1940-42*, by the Senior Medical Officer (Dr. W. L. Webb, M.B., D.P.H.).

*Report on Town and Country Planning and Housing in St. Vincent (1944)*, by R. Gardiner-Medwin, Town Planning Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

*Second Report on Town and Country Planning and Housing in St. Vincent (1944)*, by R. Gardiner-Medwin, Town Planning Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

## PUBLIC UTILITIES

*Memorandum (1946) on Electricity Supply and Proposed Hydro-Electric Development in St. Vincent*, by George Roddam, Hydraulic and Electric Engineer and Water Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

*Report on Water Supplies and Water Power in St. Vincent*, by George Roddam, M.I.E.E., Water Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

*Report*, by C. J. Keith, General Superintendent of Plant, Trinidad Consolidated Telephones, Ltd., on survey of the Saint Vincent Telephone System, carried out 16th-30th March, 1945.

*Report (May, 1946)*, by Preece, Cardew and Rider, Consulting Engineers to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, on the Saint Vincent Telephone System.

## SOCIAL WELFARE

*Report (1943) on Social Welfare in the Windward Islands*, by T. S. Simey, sometime Social Welfare Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

*Report on a Visit to St. Vincent, 1945*, by Miss D. Ibberson, Social Welfare Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

## APPENDIX I.

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities

LIABILITIES					
				£	s. d.
<b>DEPOSITS :</b>					
C.D. and Welfare Schemes Advances	.	.	.	8,736	0 3
Controller of Supplies Trading Account	.	.	.	16,666	0 1
Cotton Growers' Association Account	.	.	.	655	5 3
Dominica, Government of	.	.	.	276	1 6
Graham Bequest Fund	.	.	.	6,090	13 10
Grenada, Government of	.	.	.	5,395	5 4
Hayward X-Ray Fund	.	.	.	33	19 3
Home Fund	.	.	.	378	14 4
Musgrave Prize Fund	.	.	.	90	19 0
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	.	.	.	2,226	8 1
Reserve Fund for Kingstown Board Water Supply Loan, 1930	.	.	.	836	5 7
Saint Lucia, Government of	.	.	.	207	17 1
Savings Bank Account	.	.	.	101,431	3 5
Simmons Bequest Fund	.	.	.	147	10 4
Sundry Deposits	.	.	.	13,700	8 11
				156,872	12 3
<b>COTTON FACTORY :</b>					
Cotton Working Account	.	.	.	14,105	12 5
Cotton Factory Depreciation Fund	.	.	.	7,800	2 4
				21,705	14 9
<b>TOWN FUNDS :</b>					
Barrouallie	.	.	.	128	14 7
Calliaqua	.	.	.	168	4 7
Chateaubelair	.	.	.	13	15 10
Georgetown	.	.	.	799	2 4
Kingstown	.	.	.	2,095	17 7
Layou	.	.	.	97	11 4
Port Elizabeth	.	.	.	125	13 11
				3,429	0 2
<b>SPECIAL ACCOUNTS :</b>					
Electric Light Plant Depreciation Fund	.	.	.	2,465	9 3
Electricity Generating Unit Loan, 1939 Expenditure	.	.	.	25	9 0
Extension Electric Lighting System	.	.	.	0	4 7
Motor Launch Depreciation Fund	.	.	.	188	19 5
Permanent Investment Eruption Fund	.	.	.	25,000	0 0
Public Property Insurance Fund	.	.	.	9,950	3 1
Public Purposes Loan (1937) Windward Highway Expenditure Account	.	.	.	3	17 9
Refrigeration Plant Depreciation Fund	.	.	.	2,100	9 6
Reserve Fund for C.D.F. Loan for Housing Scheme	.	.	.	2,737	14 4
Land Settlement Loan, 1932	.	.	.	2,501	14 7
Lowmans-Biabou Water Supply Loan, 1934	.	.	.	876	6 8
				45,850	8 2
<b>SURPLUS :</b>					
Colony's Reserve Fund	.	.	.	20,205	5 1
General Revenue Balance Account :		£			
Balance at 1st January, 1946	.	34,498	12 8		
Surplus and Deficit Account for 1946	.	9,234	4 6		
		43,732	17 2		
Appreciation of Investments	.	5,139	19 3		
		48,872	16 5		
		69,078	1 6		
		£296,935	16 10		

## Statement of Liabilities and Assets (contd.)

## ASSETS

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<b>CASH :</b>							
Barclays Bank, Current Account	.	13,324	9	0			
Barclays Bank, Deposit Account	.	14	4				
Crown Agents Joint Colonial Fund	.	19,000	0	0			
Crown Agents Current Account	.	298	16	9			
In Treasury Chest	.	712	8	1			
In Sub-Accountants' Hands	.	645	16	5			
		<hr/>			33,982	4	7
Drafts and Remittances	.				698	9	6
Loan to His Majesty's Government	.				25,000	0	0
<b>ADVANCES :</b>							
Authorised Advances	.	19,940	3	5			
Post Office Account	.	7,712	8	6			
		<hr/>			27,652	11	11
<b>INVESTMENTS :</b>							
Colony's Reserve Fund	.	21,733	2	0			
Colony's Surplus Fund	.	50,791	16	6			
Cotton Factory Depreciation Fund	.	7,600	2	4			
Electric Light Plant Depreciation Fund	.	2,682	16	6			
Graham Bequest Fund	.	6,332	4	11			
Home Fund	.	378	14	4			
Reserve Fund for Colonial Development Fund	Loan for Housing Scheme	.			2,736	7	9
Reserve Fund for Kingstown Board Water Supply Loan, 1930	.	836	5	7			
Reserve Fund for Lowmans-Biabou Water Supply Loan, 1934	.	876	6	8			
Reserve Fund for Land Settlement Loan, 1932	.	2,501	14	7			
Motor Launch Depreciation Fund	.	188	19	5			
Musgrave Prize Fund	.	90	19	0			
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	.	1,929	6	8			
Public Property Insurance Fund	.	9,950	3	1			
Refrigeration Plant Depreciation Fund	.	2,139	18	10			
Simmons Bequest Fund	.	27	2	1			
Savings Bank Fund	.	98,806	10	7			
		<hr/>			209,602	10	10
		<hr/>			£296,935	16	10

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1946, was £76,371 5s. 5d. made up as follows:—*Debenture Holders* for: Land Settlement Loan, 1932-1935, £4,100; Lowmans-Biabou Water Supply Loan, 1934, £1,000; Kingstown Board Water Supply Loan, 1930, £700 (a) Public Purposes Loan, 1937, £9,060; Telephone Reconstruction Loan, 1938, £1,500; Crown Agents for Electric Light, Telephone and Road Reconstruction, £26,632 10s. 3d.; Electricity Generating Unit Loan, 1939, £3,636 7s. 3d.; Colonial Development Fund: Loan for Saint Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association, £12,782 18s. 8d. (\*); Loan for Roads Improvement, £3,092 11s. 2d.; Loan for Housing Scheme, £3,415 4s. 0d.; Loan for Ice and Cold Storage Plant, £3,429 12s. 11d.; Loan for Public Health, £736 15s. 9d.; Loan for Syrup Investigations, £948 19s. 7d.; Colonial Development and Welfare: Loan for Union Estate, Bequia, £1,099 5s. 10d.; Loan for Purchase of Camden Park Estate, £2,334 0s. 0d.; Loan for Land Settlement Canouan, £1,900 0s. 0d. Total, £76,371 5s. 5d.

The accumulated funds for redemption amounted to £25,756 17s. 0d.

(\*) General Revenue is responsible only in case of default.

NOTE.—At 31st December, 1946, the sum of £11,646 3s. 8d. was owing on account of Colonial Development and Welfare and Relief Schemes.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUE FOR THE PERIOD 1ST JANUARY TO  
31ST DECEMBER, 1946

Heads of Revenue	Estimate for the year 1946	Actual Revenue for the year 1946	Revenue for the year 1945			Increase	Decrease
			£	s.	d.		
1. Customs—							
Import	62,000	74,073	9	9	68,383	1	3
Export	9,000	9,656	16	4	8,705	0	—
Warehouse Rent	500	825	17	2	563	2	5
2. Port and Harbour Dues—							
Tonnage	1,500	1,595	6	5	1,267	16	7
Port	400	465	14	0	235	7	6
3. Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue—							
Licences—Liquor	1,500	1,678	7	6	1,624	10	0
Motor Vehicles	1,100	1,319	8	6	1,213	14	6
Other	1,348	1,255	8	11	1,283	14	9
Excise	25,000	23,108	13	7	23,907	8	11
Land and House Tax	6,500	4,805	19	4	6,046	7	11
Income Tax	23,000	27,405	7	8	21,845	15	10
Other Internal Revenue	8,205	10,076	7	9	13,472	14	3
4. Fees of Court or Office, etc.	10,325	19,194	10	0	11,912	9	10
5. Post Office	10,356	21,685	18	3	12,601	2	6
6. Electricity and Telephones	12,040	13,001	11	8	11,360	8	1
7. Rent of Government Property	408	401	2	1	460	6	4
8. Interest and Refunds of Loans	2,540	2,956	1	6	2,018	8	1
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	1,451	950	8	0	660	2	9
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands	2,205	1,737	9	5	2,060	13	11
11. Refunds of Loans from General Revenue	187,378	215,783	4	2	189,523	1	9
12. Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	136	115	5	0	115	5	0
13. Grants from Imperial Government	187,514	216,908	9	2	189,638	6	9
Total Revenue	£384,508	£388,458	0	6	£216,695	11	3
							£128,645 19 3
							£1,863 10 3
							5,883 10 3
							5,883 10 3

TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1940

Heads of Expenditure	Estimate for the year 1940	Actual Expenditure for the year 1946	Expenditure for the year 1945	Expenditure for the year 1946	Increase	Decrease
1. Charge on account of Public Debt	£ 8,332	£ 7,669	£ 8,155	£ 7,3	£ 46	£ 7
2. Pensions	8,199	7,063	8,739	5 2	335	11 6
3. Governor and Legislature	4,087	3,738	9 9	4,034	8 0	—
4. Government Office	5,168	5,117	1 6	4,033	14 0	1,085
5. Treasury, Customs, Port and Excise	10,756	9,696	3 0	9,067	0 10	629
6. Audit Department	1,294	1,184	2 7	1,061	7 4	122
7. Post Office	6,477	5,880	0 11	6,219	19 11	15
8. Judicial Department	3,104	2,932	6 0	3,478	3 3	339
8(a). Legal Department	955	1,000	14 7	783	1 10	19
9. Police	13,144	12,440	0 2	12,141	0 10	298
10. Prisons	3,117	3,483	14 8	3,369	7 8	119
11. Local Forces	420	530	18 0	420	0 0	10
12. Labour Administration	1,132	1,113	14 10	1,122	6 6	—
13. Social Welfare, Poor Relief and District Administration	3,997	4,279	19 4	2,334	2 1	1,945
14. St. Vincent Grenadines District	1,288	1,429	13 3	1,466	2 3	36
15. Agricultural Department	6,573	8,022	12 4	4,068	6 5	9,954
16. Education	23,665	21,801	17 3	25,003	13 8	3,207
17. Medical Department	30,710	33,105	15 9	27,636	18 8	16
18. Miscellaneous	15,989	23,519	10 6	31,337	16 6	5
19. Subventions	2,496	1,661	4 1	1,464	0 0	7,818
20. Electricity and Telephones Department	10,238	9,606	16 0	10,035	0 3	428
21. Public Works and Crown Lands	5,804	4,950	16 3	5,192	18 5	2
22. Public Works Recurrent	17,821	26,666	18 1	17,304	18 10	9,361
23. Public Works Extraordinary	185,266	195,062	9 2	187,854	19 8	16,702
	17,062	25,059	16 2	8,357	1 6	5
24. Loans from General Revenue	202,328	220,122	5 4	196,212	1 2	37,215
	1,000	1,205	19 2	389	0 0	0
25. Post-War Expenditure	203,328	221,328	4 6	196,601	1 2	38,031
	2,250	2,355	14 5	4,275	4 9	19 9
26. Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	205,578	223,683	18 11	200,876	5 11	38,031
7. Central Housing and Planning Authority	83,676	105,158	7 4	49,215	14 5	55,942
Total Expenditure	£289,254	£329,223	16 0	£250,092	0 4	£94,356
						2 1
						£15,224
						6 5

## APPENDIX II

## Customs Tariff

ARTICLE	PREFERENTIAL TARIFF	GENERAL TARIFF
Boots and Shoes (canvas with rubber soles)	10 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	10 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Boots and Shoes (where the outer part of the uppers is made of leather or leather and elastic)	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i> and 3s. per pair
Boots and Shoes (other kinds)	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	18½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Flour, wheaten	5s. per 196 lb.	7s. 6d. per 196 lb.
Fish, dried	1s. 3d. per 100 lb.	3s. 4d. per 100 lb.
Rice	1s. 3d. per 100 lb.	3s. per 100 lb.
Machinery — electrical, marine, water and sewerage and industrial	10 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	15 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Machinery—agricultural	5 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	10 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Sugar, refined	6s. 6d. per 100 lb.	9s. 9d. per 100 lb.
Sugar, unrefined	2s. 1d. per 100 lb.	6s. 3d. per 100 lb.
Hardware—all kinds	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	22½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Hosiery—cotton and cotton and artificial silk 7d. and under per pair value	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i> and 6d. per pair
Hosiery—cotton and cotton and artificial silk over 7d. per pair value	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i> and 7d. per pair
Hosiery—silk	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i> and 9d. per pair
Bread, biscuits, etc., unsweetened	1s. 8d. per 100 lb.	2s. 6d. per 100 lb.
Bread, other kinds	12s. 6d. per 100 lb.	25s. per 100 lb.
Cement	4d. per 100 lb.	2s. per 100 lb.
Milk, condensed or preserved	4s. 2d. per 100 lb.	8s. 4d. per 100 lb.
Milk, other kinds	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	18½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Cheese	10s. per 100 lb.	25s. per 100 lb.
Oils, edible, lucca, olive and similar oils, cotton seed, soya bean, etc.	1s. per gallon	1s. 6d. per gallon
Kerosene	3d. per gallon	3d. per gallon

ARTICLE	PREFERENTIAL TARIFF	GENERAL TARIFF
Oils, Lubricating	10d. per gallon	1s. 3d. per gallon
Paint	8d. per gallon	1s. per gallon
Medicinal	9d. per gallon	1s. 3d. per gallon
Motor Spirit, etc.	10½d. per gallon	1s. 6d. per gallon
Soap, fancy	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	18¾ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Soap, common	5s. per 100 lb.	7s. 6d. per 100 lb.
Tobacco, manufactured— cigars and cigarettes	10s. 5d. per lb.	15s. 8d. per lb.
Tobacco, snuffs and other manufactured tobacco	5s. 6d. per lb.	8s. 3d. per lb.
Tobacco, unmanufactured, leaf-black	2s. per lb.	2s. per lb.
Tobacco, leaf—other kinds	5s. per lb.	5s. per lb.
Wood, lumber	7s. 6d. per 1,000 ft.	11s. 3d. per 1,000 ft.
Motor cars and trucks	10 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	35 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Motor cars (wholly British)	7½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	—
Motor-car parts	10 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	35 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Motor-car parts (wholly British)	7½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	—
Motor-car tyres and tubes	15 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	35 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Meats—beef and pork	6s. per 100 lb.	9s. per 100 lb.
Metals	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	22½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Manures	Free	Free
Butter	10s. 5d. per 100 lb.	25s. per 100 lb.
Butter substitutes	4s. 2d. per 100 lb.	6s. 3d. per 100 lb.
Cotton piece-goods (value 1s. and under per yard)	10 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	15 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Cotton piece-goods (value over 1s. per yard)	12½ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>	18¾ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>

Except in a few instances the *ad valorem* duty levied is 12½ per cent preferential tariff and 18¾ per cent general tariff.

A surtax of 10 per cent, levied from 1943, is at present still collected on the duties imposed on all the items listed except Boots, Flour, Fish, Rice Milk and Tobacco, unmanufactured, leaf-black, which are exempt, and all other Tobacco, on which the rate is 20 per cent.

## APPENDIX III

## Income Tax and Rate Schedule

		s.	d.			s.	d.	
On every pound of the				On every pound of the				
First	£100	.	.	5	500	.	.	
Second	100	.	.	6	500	.	6 0	
Third	100	.	.	9	500	.	7 0	
Fourth	100	.	.	1 0	2,000	.	10 0	
Fifth	100	.	.	1 6	2,000	.	11 3	
Sixth	100	.	.	2 0	3,500	.	12 6	
Seventh	100	.	.	3 0	5,000	.	13 6	
Eighth	100	.	.	3 6	5,000	.	14 0	
Ninth	100	.	.	4 0	Upwards	.	14 6	
Tenth	100	.	.	5 0				
		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Tax on					Tax on			
£100	.	.	2	1	8	2,600	.	.
200	.	.	4	11	8	2,700	.	.
300	.	.	8	6	8	2,800	.	.
400	.	.	13	6	8	2,900	.	.
500	.	.	20	16	8	3,000	.	.
600	.	.	30	16	8	3,100	.	.
700	.	.	45	16	8	3,200	.	.
800	.	.	63	6	8	3,300	.	.
900	.	.	83	6	8	3,400	.	.
1,000	.	.	108	6	8 (a)	3,500	.	.
1,100	.	.	135	16	8	3,600	.	.
1,200	.	.	163	6	8	3,700	.	.
1,300	.	.	190	16	8	3,800	.	.
1,400	.	.	218	6	8	3,900	.	.
1,500	.	.	245	16	8 (b)	4,000	.	.
1,600	.	.	275	16	8	4,100	.	.
1,700	.	.	305	16	8	4,200	.	.
1,800	.	.	335	16	8	4,300	.	.
1,900	.	.	365	16	8	4,400	.	.
2,000	.	.	395	16	8 (c)	4,500	.	.
2,100	.	.	430	16	8	4,600	.	.
2,200	.	.	465	16	8	4,700	.	.
2,300	.	.	500	16	8	4,800	.	.
2,400	.	.	535	16	8	4,900	.	.
2,500	.	.	570	16	8 (d)	5,000	.	.

(a), (b), (c), (d)—Subject from these points to additional charges of 5 per cent 10 per cent 15 per cent, and 25 per cent, respectively.

Provided further that the amount of tax payable on a chargeable income at the rate applicable thereto shall, where necessary, be reduced

so as not to exceed the highest amount of tax which would be payable at the next lower rate, with the addition of the amount by which the chargeable income exceeds the chargeable income on which the highest amount of tax would be so payable at the lower rate.

*Companies :*

On every Pound . . . . . 5s.

## APPENDIX IV

### Stamp Duties

	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Admission to act as a barrister . . . . .	26 5 0
Admission to act as a solicitor . . . . .	15 15 0
Affidavit or declaration in lieu thereof . . . . .	2 0
Agreement underhand, when the subject-matter is of the value of £5 and not exceeding £25 . . . . .	1 0
For each additional £25 or part thereof . . . . .	1 0
Agreement for the purchase of or otherwise dealing with real estate when such purchase or dealing is to be carried out by subsequent deed . . . . .	2 0
Agreements not otherwise charged for . . . . .	6
Appraisement of goods, chattels, etc., over the value of £10 . . . . .	2 0
Assignment of property where the value does not exceed £50 . . . . .	2 0
For every additional £50 or part thereof . . . . .	2 0
Bank cheques . . . . .	1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes up to three days sight . . . . .	1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes—other kinds—not exceeding £1 . . . . .	1
Exceeding £1 and not exceeding £10 . . . . .	2
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25 . . . . .	3
Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50 . . . . .	6
Exceeding £50 and not exceeding £75 . . . . .	9
Exceeding £75 and not exceeding £100 . . . . .	1 0
For each additional £25 or part thereof exceeding £100 . . . . .	3
Bills of lading . . . . .	3
Bills of health . . . . .	4 0
Bills of sale absolute . . . . .	10 0
Bills of sale by way of security . . . . .	5 0
Bonds for any sum not exceeding £100 . . . . .	5 0
For each additional £50 or part thereof . . . . .	2 6
Bottomry Bond . . . . .	10 0
Bond of Indemnity, sum not specified . . . . .	5 0
Conveyance or transfer on sale of real property when the amount or value does not exceed £10 . . . . .	1 0
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25 . . . . .	2 6
Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50 . . . . .	7 6
For each additional £50 or part thereof . . . . .	7 6

		£ s. d.
<b>Certificates :</b>		
Of admission to practise as notary	.	3 0 0
Of landing of goods	.	6
Of naturalisation	.	3 0 0
Of birth, marriage or death	.	1
Customs ships' manifests	.	1 0
Customs bills of entry inwards	.	3
Shipping bill	.	1½
<b>Legacies :</b>		
Where the legacy amounts to £50 and does not exceed £100	.	2 0 0
For every additional £50 or part thereof	.	1 0 0
<b>Licence for marriage</b>	.	1 0 0
<b>Mortgage of real property for every £100 or fractional part</b>	.	10 0
<b>Release of mortgage</b>	.	10 0
<b>Notarial Act of any kind except Protest of a Bill of Exchange or Promissory Note</b>	.	1 0
<b>Policy of Insurance—Life :</b>		
For every £100 or part of amount insured	.	1 0
<b>Policy of Insurance—Fire, etc. :</b>		
For every payment by way of indemnity	.	1
<b>Power of attorney or substitution</b>	.	10 0
<b>Protest of any bill of exchange</b>	.	2 0
<b>Receipt for the payment of £1 and upwards</b>	.	1½
<b>Probate of wills and letters of administration (including issue of certificate) where personal</b>		
Estate does not exceed £50	.	10 0
Exceeds £50 and does not exceed £100	.	1 0 0
For every additional £100 or fractional part	.	1 0

## APPENDIX V

### Imports and Exports

ARTICLE	IMPORTS	QUANTITY 1945	QUANTITY 1946
Beer, Ale and Stout	14,243 gallons	14,243 gallons	21,355·6 gallons
Butter	96,621 lb.	96,621 lb.	91,609 lb.
Butter substitutes	11,300 lb.	11,300 lb.	9,836 lb.
Cheese	3,280 lb.	3,280 lb.	6,528 lb.
Coffee, raw and prepared	24,251 lb.	24,251 lb.	37,127 lb.
Confectionery	11,012 lb.	11,012 lb.	26,575 lb.
Fish, salted and smoked	335,435 lb.	335,435 lb.	418,090 lb.
Rice	1,398,586 lb.	1,398,586 lb.	1,200,366 lb.
Flour, wheaten	5,636,960 lb.	5,636,960 lb.	4,360,804 lb.
Lard	26,282 lb.	26,282 lb.	48,443 lb.

ARTICLE	QUANTITY 1945	QUANTITY 1946
Meat, salted, etc.	58,273 lb.	83,921 lb.
Bacon and Hams	24,548 lb.	17,494 lb.
Milk, condensed	43,384 lb.	54,248 lb.
Salt, coarse	1,478,960 lb.	806,720 lb.
Sugar, unrefined	1,964,658 lb.	1,044,035 lb.
Tea	3,772 lb.	4,698 lb.
Tobacco, unmanufactured	22,118 lb.	227,850 lb.
Cigarettes	2,611 lb.	10,707 lb.
Leaf, other kinds	31,243 lb.	29,960 lb.
Motor spirits	58,073 gallons	120,161 gallons
Painters' colours, etc.	108,376 lb.	135,960 lb.
Soap, laundry	115,483 lb.	15,860 lb.
Lumber	654,247 ft.	618,247 ft.
Boots and shoes	2,356 doz. pairs	1,982 doz. prs.
Cement	1,028 tons	2,383 tons
Cotton piece-goods	637,930 sq. yds.	504,823 sq. yds.
Artificial silk piece-goods	104,670 sq. yds.	32,584 sq. yds.
Glassware (value)	£1,415	£1,152
Hardware (value)	£4,755	£4,995
Metals (value)	£11,708	£22,575

## EXPORTS

ARTICLE	QUANTITY 1945	QUANTITY 1946
Arrowroot	5,139,828 lb.	6,323,715 lb.
Coconuts	270,050 (number)	91,726 (number)
Copra	2,810,591 lb.	3,067,376 lb.
Cassava starch	650,235 lb.	495,484 lb.
Cotton—Sea Island White	261,952 lb.	322,810 lb.
Stained	9,907 lb.	30,823 lb.
Marie Galante	78,241 lb.	Nil
Goats	2,786 (number)	3,813 (number)
Sheep	1,908 (number)	1,714 (number)
Groundnuts	406,391 lb.	285,011 lb.
Mace	7,483 lb.	9,265 lb.
Nutmegs	15,879 lb.	52,135 lb.
Peas	72,203 lb.	5,745 lb.
Plantains	5,146 bunches	7,564 bunches
Potatoes	23,995 bags	23,473 bags
Soap	64,000 lb.	47,500 lb.
Syrup and Molasses	28,903 gallons	220 gallons
Turtle Shell	532 lb.	625 lb.
Yams	£516 (value)	139 bags
Corn	17,375 lb.	1,216 lb.

## APPENDIX VI

## Administrative Organisation

## ADMINISTRATION

*Administrator* : (£1,000, duty allowance £200, travelling allowance £100+)—R. H. Garvey, C.M.G., M.B.E., M.A.

*Government Secretary* : (£400 to £500)—Bernard Gibbs.

*Special Grade Clerks* : (£320 to £400)—A. V. King.  
A. L. Samuel.

## AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

*Agricultural Superintendent and Chief Forest Officer* : (£500 to £600, personal allowance £150, travelling allowance £127)—C. K. Robinson, M.B.E., M.S., D.I.C.T.A.\*

*Agricultural Assistants* : (£300—£450, travelling allowance £117, house allowance £25)—

1. Windward District : H. A. L. Francis, D.I.C.T.A.
2. Leeward District : J. L. Kidney, B.Sc.
3. Southern District : (Vacant).

*Officer-in-Charge, Camden Park Experiment Station* : (£350—£450 travelling allowance £50+ and free quarters, all paid from C.D. and W. funds)—W. R. E. Nanton, D.I.C.T.A.

*Agricultural Assistant (Livestock)* : (£250 to £400, travelling allowance £50+ and free quarters, all paid from C.D. and W. funds)—E. Kirby, D.I.C.T.A.

*Senior Office Assistant (Technical)* : (£215 to £350)—Mrs. Nora Hadley.

## AUDIT

*Audit Clerk* : (£320 to £400)—I. D. B. Charles.

## EDUCATIONAL

*Education Officer* : (£700, travelling allowance £175, all paid from Colonial Development and Welfare funds)—Vacant.

*Inspector of Schools* : (£300 to £400 and travelling allowance £80+)—J. J. Antrobus (on two years' contract).

*Headmaster, Grammar School* : (£500 to £600)—W. M. Lopey, M.A. (Durham).

*Senior Assistant Master, Grammar School* : (£300 to £400)—U. G. Crick, B.A. (London).

\*Seconded to Staff of Central Secretariat of Caribbean Commission as Executive Secretary (Agricultural Economist) for a period of two years in first instance from 27th November.

*Headmistress, Girls' High School* : (£400 to £500)—Miss M. Ellison, B.A.  
*Senior Assistant Mistress, Girls' High School* : (£250 to £350)—Vacant.

#### ELECTRICITY AND TELEPHONE DEPARTMENT

*Superintendent, Electricity and Telephone Department* : (£400 to £500, travelling allowance £80+)—Vacant.  
*Assistant Superintendent, Electricity and Telephone Department* : (£320 to £400 and travelling allowance £70)—L. A. B. Samuel (on contract).

#### JUDICIAL

*Puisne Judge, Windward and Leeward Islands, Saint Vincent Circuit* : (£1,100)—H. A. O'Reilly. *Registrar, Supreme Court and Additional Magistrate* : (£350 to £450)—D. H. A. McNamara.  
*Magistrate* : (£400 to £500, travelling allowance £80+)—Vacant.  
*Magistrate* (3rd District) : See Saint Vincent Grenadines District.

#### LABOUR

*Labour Commissioner* : (£400 to £500, travelling allowance £80+)—R. N. Jack.

#### LEGAL

*Crown Attorney* : (£650)—P. C. Lewis.

#### MEDICAL

*Senior Medical Officer* : (£800, travelling allowance £60+)—Dr. W. L. Webb, M.B., D.P.H.

*Medical Superintendent, Belair Health Institute* : (£550, Duty allowance £200, travelling allowance £100, all paid from C.D. and W. funds)—Dr. E. D. B. Charles.

*District Medical Officers* : £400 to £500, travelling allowance ranging from £40 to £90+)—Dr. F. Alexis, Dr. W. C. G. Murray, Dr. K. J. E. McMillan, Dr. H. A. Munro, Dr. A. B. DaCosta, three vacancies.

*Resident Surgeon, Colonial Hospital* : (£550 and duty allowance of £100 as in charge of Radiological Clinic)—A. B. Brereton.

*Medical Officer, Colonial Hospital* : (£400 to £550)—Vacant.

*Nurse Matron, Colonial Hospital* : (£180 to £200, house allowance £38, uniform allowance £10)—Miss S. Beach.

*Steward and Chief Dispenser* : (£250 to £350)—C. E. Daisey.

*Sanitary Superintendent* : (£300 to £400, travelling allowance £80+)—J. L. Chapman, M.B.E.\*

#### POLICE

*Superintendent of Police* : (£450 to £550, uniform allowance £12, travelling allowance £60+)—Major D. S. Cozier.

\*Seconded as Secretary of the Central Housing and Planning Authority.

*Assistant Superintendent of Police* : ( £300 to £400, uniform allowance £12, travelling allowance £60)—Captain A. L. Gentle.

## POOR RELIEF AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

*Poor Relief and Probation Officer* : ( £215 to £300, travelling allowance £50+ )—F. John.

## APPENDIX VII

## Government Publications Available for Sale to the Public

<i>Title of Publication</i>	<i>Published Price and Subscription Rate</i>	<i>Cost of Postage to United Kingdom</i>
<i>Plan of Development, 1946-56</i>	30s.	—
<i>St. Vincent Annual Report, 1946</i>	2s.	—
<i>Administrator's Address commemorating Golden Jubilee, Kingstown Board, 1947</i> (incorporating summary history of Saint Vincent, its capital Kingstown and the Kingstown Board)	9d.	—
<i>Blue Book for 1939</i>	10s. 6d.	6½d. per copy
<i>Administration Reports, 1945</i>	—	5d. per copy
<i>Ordinances, 1946</i>	2s. 6d.	2d. per copy
<i>Regulations, Orders in Council, etc., 1946</i>	1s. 3d.	1d. per copy
<i>Report on Vital Statistics for 1946</i>	—	½d. per copy
<i>Sheet Almanack, 1947</i>	6d.	½d. per copy
<i>Minutes of Legislative Council (2 vols.), 1946</i>	—	3½d. per copy
<i>Government Gazette</i>	12s. 6d. per annum, 6d. per copy.	Varies according to size of each issue.

*London Agent* : The Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, London, S.W. 1.

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